

INSIDE TODAY WORLD NEWS

GARRISON GUNBATTLE



Alleged drug gang leader Christopher "Dudus" Coke is shown in this undated photo. Jamaican Police have an arrest warrant for "Dudus", who is sought by U.S. authorities on drug and arms trafficking charges but residents in West Kingston neighborhoods have set up barricades to prevent the police for entering the slums to execute the order.

Read more on Page A6

SPORTS NEWS

BROWN OUT



In this file photo taken Tuesday, May 11, 2010, Cleveland Cavaliers coach Mike Brown signals his team in the third quarter of Game 5 against the Boston Celtics in a second round NBA basketball playoff series, in Cleveland.

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South Korean President Lee Myung-bak, center, Defense Minister Kim Tae-young, front right, and other officials walk to look around monuments of lists of those killed in battle, at the War Memorial of Korea near a U.S. army base after Lee delivered a speech in Seoul on Monday May 24, 2010. South Korea's president said Monday his nation will no longer tolerate North Korea's "brutality" and said the regime would pay for a surprise torpedo attack that killed 46 South Korean sailors.

Associated Press

U.S., South Korea to test military in signal to North

JULIE PACE and RON POWERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. and South Korea are planning two major military exercises off the Korean Peninsula in a display of force intended to deter North Korean acts like the March torpedo attack on a South Korean warship. President Barack Obama ordered his

military commanders to coordinate closely with their South Korea counterparts "to ensure readiness and to deter future aggression" by North Korea, the White House said. Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters on Monday the joint exercises will be conducted in the "near future."

Continued on Page 9

White House backs compromise on gays in military

PHILIP ELLIOTT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposal to step up the repeal of the ban on gays and lesbians serving openly in the military but still allow the Pentagon time — perhaps even years — to implement new policies won the White House's backing on Monday after administration officials met with gay rights activists.

The White House budget office sent a

letter supporting the proposal to remove the Clinton-era "don't ask, don't tell" law even as the Pentagon continues a review of the system. Implementation of policy for gays serving openly would still require the approval of President Barack Obama, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen. How long implementation might take is not known.

"The proposed amendment will allow for

completion of the comprehensive review, enable the Department of Defense to assess the results of the review, and ensure that the implementation of the of the repeal is consistent with standards of military readiness, effectiveness, unit cohesion, recruiting and retention," budget chief Peter Orszag wrote in an evening letter to Rep. Patrick Murphy, the Democrat leading the repeal in the House.

Continued on Next Page

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In this Feb. 1, 2010 file photo, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, left, and Joint Chiefs Chairman Adm. Mike Mullen hold a briefing at the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen warned Congress not to tamper with the ban on gays serving openly in the military until they can come up with a plan for dealing with potential opposition in the ranks, Friday, April 30, 2010.

Associated Press

GAYS IN MILITARY

Continued from Front Page

Murphy, an Iraq war veteran, was expected to introduce the legislative proposal on Tuesday. Gay rights groups urged a quick vote, which could come as early as Thursday.

“Without a repeal vote by

Congress this year, the Pentagon’s hands are tied and the armed forces will be forced to continue adhering to the discriminatory ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ law,” said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign.

The White House had hoped lawmakers would delay action

until Pentagon officials had completed their study so fellow Democrats would not face criticism that they moved too quickly or too far ahead of public opinion in this election year. Instead, administration officials recognized it could not stop Congress in its effort to repeal the 1993 ban and joined the negotiations.

Hours after activists met at the White House, top Democratic lawmakers met and approved the final version of a brokered deal that adds the repeal to the annual defense spending bill. Obama called for the repeal during his State of the Union address this year, and Gates and Mullen have echoed his views but have cautioned any action must be paced.

In a speech last year at the Army War College in Pennsylvania, Gates noted that the 1948 executive order for racial integration took five years to implement.

“I’m not saying that’s a model for this, but I’m saying that I believe this is something that needs to be done very,

very carefully,” he told the audience.

One organization dedicated to repealing the law urged supporters to hold celebration. “President Obama’s support and Secretary Gates’ buy-in should ensure a winning vote, but we are not there yet,” said Aubrey Sarvis, an Army veteran and Servicemembers Legal Defense Network executive director. “The votes still need to be worked and counted.”

The administration has argued that any repeal should start in Congress and have the backing of top military leaders. Gay rights activists criticized the administration as Obama did little to push for a repeal during his first year in office. At Congress, the third-ranking Republican in the House of Representatives promised unified Republican opposition to lifting the ban. “The American people don’t want the American military to be used to advance a liberal political agenda. And House Republicans will stand on that

principle,” said Mike Pence.

Pence urged Democrats who control both chambers to wait until the Pentagon completes its review of what a repeal would take.

Congress led hearings on a repeal and heard testimony from Gates and Mullen — the top uniformed official in the country — in favor of repeal. Additionally, a Gallup poll earlier this month found 70 percent of American favor allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly.

Obama’s relationship with gay activists has been rocky since his election. Gays and lesbians objected to the invitation of evangelist Rev. Rick Warren’s to participate in Obama’s inauguration because of Warren’s support for repealing gay marriage in California. Obama responded by having Episcopal Bishop V. Gene Robinson, the denomination’s first openly gay bishop, participate at another event.

Obama has taken a slow and incremental approach to the politically charged issues. □



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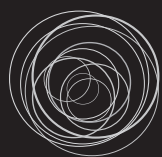
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Official says U.S. can't push BP aside on oil spill

ERICA WERNER
GREG BLUESTEIN

Associated Press Writers

COVINGTON, Louisiana (AP) — The Obama administration's point man on the oil spill rejected the notion of removing BP PLC and taking over the crisis Monday, saying the government has neither the company's expertise nor its deep-sea equipment.

"To push BP out of the way would raise a question, to replace them with what?" Coast Guard Commandant Thad Allen, who is heading the federal response to the spill, said at a White House briefing.

The White House is facing increasing questions about why the government can't assert more control over the handling of the catastrophe, which unfolded after a BP offshore drilling rig blew up April 20.

All of BP's attempts to stop the leak have failed, despite the British oil giant's use of joystick-operated submarine robots that can operate at depths no human could withstand. Millions of gallons of brown crude are now coating birds and other wildlife and fouling the Louisiana marshes.

BP is pinning its hopes of stopping the gusher on yet another technique never tested 5,000 feet (1,500 meters) underwater: a "top kill," in which heavy mud and cement would be shot into the blown-out well to plug it up. The top kill could begin as early as Wednesday, with BP CEO Tony Hayward giving it a 60 to 70 percent chance of success.

Allen said federal law dictated that BP had to operate the cleanup, with the government

overseeing its efforts.

"They're exhausting every technical means possible to deal with that leak," he said. "I am satisfied with the coordination that's going on."

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar suggested over the weekend that the government could intervene aggressively if BP wasn't delivering. "If we find that they're not doing what they're supposed to be doing, we'll push them out of the way appropriately," he said.

But asked about that comment Monday, Allen said: "That's more of a metaphor."

Allen said BP and the government are working closely together, with the government holding veto power and adopting an "inquisitorial" stand toward the company's ideas. The commandant also said the government has the authority to tell BP what to do, and such orders carry the force of law.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano also took a more measured tone at a news conference Monday in Galliano, Louisiana, with Salazar and six U.S. senators who had flown over the coast to see the damage. "We continue to hold BP responsible as the responsible party, but we are on them, watching them," she said.

BP said it is doing all it can to stop the leak. Its chief operating officer, Doug Suttles, made the rounds of network morning news shows to say that the company understands people are frustrated.

"Clearly Secretary Salazar is telling us that we need to do this as expediently as we can," Suttles said. "And of

course we are."

Hayward, BP's chief executive, walked along oil-soaked Fourchon Beach and said he had underestimated the possible environmental effects.

"I'm as devastated as you are by what I've seen here today," Hayward told reporters after he spoke with cleanup workers in white overalls and yellow boots, some shoveling oily sand into garbage cans. "We are going to do everything in our power to prevent any more oil from coming ashore, and we will clean every last drop up and we will remediate all of the environmental damage."

Mark Kellstrom, an analyst with Summit, New Jersey-based Strategic Energy Research, said time might be running out for BP to continue calling the shots. "The rhetoric is growing up in Washington for the politicians to kick out BP and let the government take over," Kellstrom said, though he added that it would be a mistake. BP had hoped to try a top kill earlier but needed more time to get equipment into place and test it. A top kill has worked on aboveground oil wells in Kuwait and Iraq but has never before been attempted so far underwater. Suttles said the biggest technical challenge is that the fluid must be pumped in very quickly, and engineers need to make sure it goes into the well, not out through the leaking pipe, which could make the leak worse.

A containment device is on the seafloor, ready to be put in place if the top kill fails or makes the leak worse. It is a smaller version of a 100-ton box that BP lowered several weeks ago in hopes of



White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, center, with U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thad Allen, right, and Director of the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy Carol Browner speak to reporters at a news briefing at the White House in Washington, Monday, May 24, 2010.

Associated Press

capturing much of the oil. But BP was forced to abandon it got clogged with icy crystals, it. □



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GOP tries to upend campaign backed by tea party



Tim D'Annunzio, republican congressional candidate for North Carolina's 8th district, answers a question during a press conference in Concord, N.C. on Monday, May 24, 2010.

Associated Press

MIKE BAKER

Associated Press Writer

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) — Republican officials are working to derail the campaign of a congressional candidate supported by anti-tax tea party conservatives — circulating documents from the man's messy divorce that

depict him as a pot smoker who has called himself the messiah.

It's a risky move for state and national party leaders trying to harness the power of the tea party movement without letting it spin out of their control. The tea party is a far-right movement that aims to

drastically reduce the role of the federal government.

Tim D'Annunzio, a congressional candidate in North Carolina's most competitive district, has run an anti-establishment campaign with vows to dismantle entire branches of the federal government. His ideas have drawn support from tea party activists, and he has raised more money from individuals than his Republican rival while also contributing more than \$1 million to his own campaign. Republican leaders in both Raleigh and Washington, however, are worried about his electability in November if he wins a primary runoff next month.

They're publicizing court documents about D'Annunzio's past legal, marital and business troubles and denouncing him as unfit for office.

Republican tensions with the tea party have surfaced

around the country, most recently in Kentucky, when the coalition pushed political novice Rand Paul to victory in the Republican primary for a U.S. Senate seat. Paul defeated the experienced candidate supported by the Republican party establishment.

In Hoke County divorce records, his wife said in 1995 that D'Annunzio had claimed to be the Messiah, had traveled to New Jersey to raise his stepfather from the dead, believed God would drop a 1,000-mile high pyramid as the New Jerusalem on Greenland and found the Ark of the Covenant in Arizona. A doctor's evaluation the following month said D'Annunzio used marijuana almost daily, had been living with another woman for several months, had once been in drug treatment for heroin dependence and was jailed a couple times as a teenager. The doctor concluded that

his religious beliefs were not delusional. A judge wrote in a child support ruling a few years later that D'Annunzio was a self-described "religious zealot" who believed the government was the "Antichrist."

The judge said he was willfully failing to make child support payments.

D'Annunzio declined Monday to discuss the specifics of his past and refused to confirm or deny the details of the court documents. He acknowledged having "a troubled upbringing" but that he got himself out of it and changed his life 16 years ago, when he had a religious conversion.

"The bigger story is that the power brokers in Raleigh and in Washington are willing to go to any length and use any unscrupulous tactic to try to destroy somebody," he said. "They think that they're losing their control over the Republican party." □

Crime rates down for third year, despite recession

By PETE YOST

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Crime in the United States dropped dramatically in 2009, bucking a historical trend that links rising crime rates to economic woes. Property crimes and violent offenses each declined about 5 percent, the FBI said Monday, citing reports from law enforcement coast to coast. It was the third straight year of declines, and this year's drops were even steeper than those of 2007 and 2008, despite the recession. There were words of caution from experts. "It's fabulous news, but I would draw an analogy to global warming: Even if you believe the long-term trend is increasing temperatures, it doesn't mean you can't have a cold year," said Jonathan P. Caulkins, a professor of public policy at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College. Last year's decline was 5.5 percent for violent crime, including 7.2 percent for murders. The rate for property crime was down 4.9 percent, the seventh consecutive drop for that category. The declines had been a more modest 1.9 percent for violent crime and 0.8 percent for property crime in 2008 and 0.7 percent and 1.4 percent respectively the

previous year.

Long term, said Northeastern University criminology professor James Alan Fox, "there is a connection between an economic downturn and crime: Budget cuts create significant challenges in keeping crime rates low. We have increasing numbers of at-risk youth in the population, and they need services. We need to reinvest in crime prevention or else the good news we see today could evaporate."

The nation's jobless rate hit 10.2 percent last October, reaching double digits for the first time in 26 years. The rate was 9.9 percent last month. "We thought our property crimes during a recession would probably go up," said Sgt. Trent Crump, a police department spokesman in Phoenix, where property crime declined more than 20 percent. Homicides in Phoenix were down over 25 percent.

Crump attributed the drop in crime to a department focus on getting more officers on the street, targeting repeat offenders and forming partnerships with community leaders. Experts offered a range of factors that might have contributed to the drop in reported crimes □



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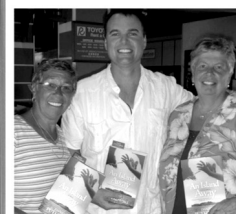
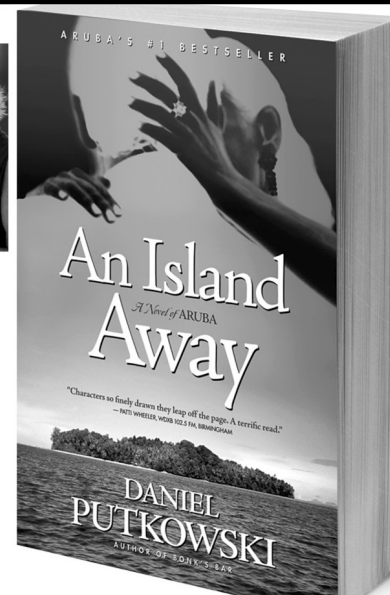
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FIREFIGHTER LAWSUIT Continued from Front Page

"Today, the Supreme Court affirmed that job-seekers should not be denied justice based on a technicality," said John Payton, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., who argued the case. "This victory goes well beyond the immediate results in Chicago. It should ensure that no other fire department or employer uses a discriminatory test, and LDF will go the extra mile to make sure that they do not." Anyone who scored 64 or below was deemed not qualified. But the city set a second cutoff score of 89 points.

Officials told applicants who scored below 89 but above 64 that although they passed the test, they likely would not be hired because of the large number of people who scored 89 or above. The majority of those in the top-scoring group were white; only 11 percent were black.

People are supposed to sue within 300 days after an employment action they seek to challenge as unlawful.

The city says the clock started when it announced the use of the test scores on Jan. 26, 1996. The first lawsuit in the case was filed on March 31, 1997, 430 days after the city announced the results. But the plaintiffs say a new act of discrimination also happened each time the scores were used in hiring firefighter trainees between May 1996 and October 2001.

A U.S. District judge agreed with the black applicants. After an eight-day trial, the federal judge ordered the city to hire 132 randomly selected

African American applicants who scored above 64. The court also ordered the city to count up the backpay and divide it among the rest of the applicants.

The 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago overturned that decision.

In Monday's high court ruling, Scalia said: "It may be true that the City's January 1996 decision to adopt the cutoff score (and to create a list of the applicants above it) gave rise to a freestanding disparate impact claim. ... But it does not follow that no new violation occurred — and no new claims could arise — when the City implemented

that decision down the road. If petitioners could prove that the City 'used' the 'practice' that 'causes a disparate impact,' they could prevail."

City officials and business groups argue that the court's decision allowing the black firefighter lawsuit and judgment will cause a host of legal problems for them, including opening them to lawsuits claiming unintended discrimination "for practices they have used regularly for years."

"It is not our task to assess the consequences of each approach and adopt the one that produces the least mischief," Scalia wrote. □



In this April 9, 2010 file photo the Supreme Court is seen in Washington. Since the country's birth, the primary mission of the American political party has been this: amass power by recruiting candidates, raising money and spreading messages. In short, a holding company that elects people - with a monopoly for a century and a half by Democrats and Republicans.

Associated Press

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Gunbattles intensifying, spreading in Jamaica

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press Writer

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Jamaica's security forces clashed for a second day with masked gunmen allied with an alleged drug kingpin facing extradition to the U.S. as fighting spread Monday to more volatile slums around the capital.

Police and soldiers came under sustained heavy fire in the West Kingston stronghold of Christopher "Dudus" Coke, who has been indicted in the U.S. on drug and arms trafficking charges. Military helicopters with mounted guns buzzed above the impoverished area between plumes of black smoke.

A series of explosions boomed across West Kingston while hundreds of security agents assaulted Coke's barricaded base of Tivoli Gardens in a coordinated operation against drug gangsters whose arsenals rival police firepower.

Exact details were not known about casualties. Authorities said two officers had been killed and at least six wounded since Sunday, and at least one Jamaican soldier was shot dead during Monday's fighting at Tivoli Gardens, the Caribbean island's first housing project. A woman in the besieged slum told Radio Jamaica that she and her terrified family were hunkered down in their apartment as a firefight raged outside.

"I really pray that somebody will find the love in their heart and stop this right now. It is just too much, my brother," the woman told the station, the sound of gunfire popping nearby.

Clashes broke out Sunday, six days after Prime Minister Bruce Golding dropped his opposition to extraditing Coke, who has ties to the governing



In this photo taken Thursday, May 20, 2010 a demonstrator displays a cardboard with a message in support of Christopher "Dudus" Coke during a march in Kingston. Jamaican Police have an arrest warrant for "Dudus", who allegedly leads one of Jamaica's drug gangs and is sought by U.S. authorities on drug and arms trafficking charges but residents of West Kingston neighborhoods have set up barricades to prevent the police for entering the slums to execute the order.

Associated Press

party. Golding had stalled the case for nine months claiming the U.S. indictment relied on illegal wiretap evidence, but he caved in to a growing public outcry over his stand. After the reversal, Coke's supporters began barricading streets and preparing for battle.

West Kingston, which includes the Trenchtown slum where reggae superstar Bob Marley was raised, is the epicenter of the violence. But on Monday, security forces also came under fire in areas outside that patchwork of gritty slums in the capital on Jamaica's southeastern coast, far from the virtually crime-free tourist resorts on the north shore.

Gunmen shot at police while trying to erect barricades in a poor section of St. Catherine parish, which is just outside the two parishes where the government on Sunday implemented a monthlong

state of emergency.

A police station in an outlying area of Kingston parish also was showered with bullets by a roving band of gunmen with high-powered rifles.

Security Minister Dwight Nelson said "police are on top of the situation," but gunfire was reported in several poor communities and brazen gunmen even shot up Kingston's central police station. The drug trade is deeply entrenched in Jamaica, which is the largest producer of marijuana in the region and where gangs have become powerful organized crime networks involved in international gun smuggling. It fuels one of the world's highest murder rates; the island of 2.8 million people had about 1,660 homicides in 2009. Police Commissioner Owen Ellington said "scores of criminals" from drug gangs across the Caribbean

island had joined the fighting in the Kingston area, where the fear of gun violence has driven many to live behind gated walls with keypad entry systems and 24-hour security. In a sun-splashed island known more for reggae music and all-inclusive resorts, the violence erupted Sunday afternoon after nearly a week of rising tensions over the possible extradition of Coke to the United States, where he faces a possible sentence of life in prison.

Coke is described as one of the world's most dangerous drug lords by the U.S. Justice Department.

He leads one of the gangs that control politicized slums known as "garrisons." Political parties created the gangs in the 1970s to rustle up votes. The gangs have since turned to drug trafficking, but each remains closely tied to a political party. Coke's gang is

tied to the governing Labor Party.

Civil aviation officials said some flights to Kingston were diverted Monday to the north coast tourist mecca of Montego Bay and a few flights were canceled altogether. U.S. officials have warned that access roads to the airport could be blocked by unrest.

The U.S. State Department said Monday it was "the responsibility of the Jamaican government to locate and arrest Mr. Coke." A U.S. Embassy spokeswoman denied widespread rumors that U.S. officials were meeting with Coke's lawyers.

Coke's lead attorney, Don Foote, told reporters his legal team had planned to have talks with U.S. officials at the embassy but the meeting was canceled.

Foote refused to say whether Coke was hunkered down in the barricaded Tivoli Gardens slum or was somewhere else in the country.

In a national address Sunday night, Golding said the state of emergency order for Kingston and St. Andrew parish gives authorities the power to restrict movement. Security forces will also be able to conduct searches and detain people without warrants.

The U.S. extradition controversy and the ensuing violence has brought to the fore issues that have been simmering for a long time in Jamaica, specifically the links between the political parties and volatile slums that are virtually one-party garrisons. Amid the escalating tension, the country's civil society has been demanding through talk shows, blogs and Facebook groups that the government sever all links with powerful "community dons" like Coke. □

SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Entertainment Center - Oranjestad • 7p-11p



Kevin Hart



Chris Spencer



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Saturday, May 29, 2010 MUSIC CONCERT Joe Laveist Stadium – San Nicholas • 6:30p-11p



Mary J. Blige



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Sunday, May 30, 2010 MUSIC CONCERT Joe Laveist Stadium – San Nicholas • 6:30p-11p



Toni Braxton



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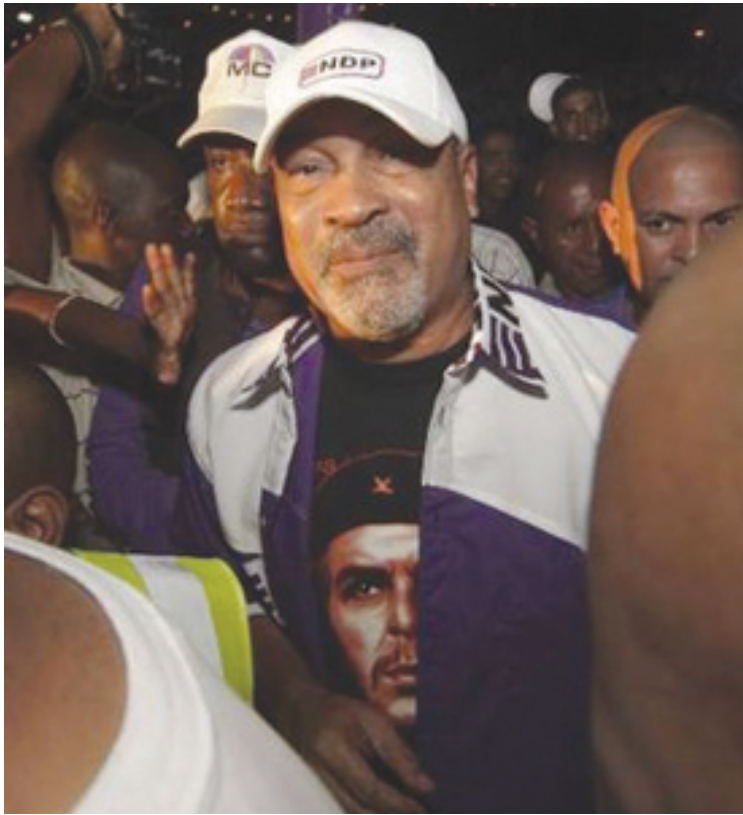
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Former dictator could gain power in Suriname



Former Surinamese dictator Desi Bouterse, head of the opposition National Democratic Party (NDP), arrives for the final campaign rally ahead of the May 25 parliamentary elections, in Paramaribo May 23, 2010. Bouterse, who said he is willing to talk with all parties to form a government, leads most opinion polls and has vowed to seek the presidency if his party wins enough seats. Picture taken May 23, 2010.

Reuters Photo

ARNY BELFOR,
Associated Press Writer
PARAMARIBO, Suriname (AP) — A former dictator and convicted drug trafficker appears poised to regain political power in Suriname, where he has cultivated a following among young people despite facing trial for the execution of political opponents in the 1980s. The main opposition party led by Desi Bouterse appears likely to gain at least some control in the South American parliament in Tuesday's election. His National Democratic Party currently holds 15 of the 51 seats. Parliament routinely appoints a president shortly after its own elections. A president needs the vote of two-thirds of the lawmakers, so a coalition of Bouterse's party and two smaller parties might win enough seats to vote him back in to the country's top job. A poll released during the campaign showed Bouterse's coalition with 41 percent of the vote compared to 29 percent for the governing New Front coalition in the area surrounding the capital, Paramaribo, the country's

largest and most important election district. Bouterse has not indicated since the campaign began whether he wants to resume the presidency, but he has expressed interest in the past and his party has not promoted any other candidate. The former head of a left-leaning military regime, Bouterse, 64, has appealed primarily to the young and the poor with pledges of more housing and jobs. At a recent campaign rally, he said money the government has been putting into a widely touted \$500 million reserve fund should instead be given to the hungry. The five-party coalition government has warned that a Bouterse victory would be disastrous for Suriname, a former Dutch colony of 500,000 people. President Ronald Venetiaan has vowed that his governing party will never work with the National Democratic Party as long as Bouterse is in control. Venetiaan, 73, who is nearing the end of his second consecutive term, is running to keep his seat in parliament but has said he will not seek to

hold on to the presidency. Ruling-coalition lawmaker Winston Jesserun said a recent slump in the exchange rate for Surinamese currency was due to the poll favoring Bouterse's party. "If only the idea of Bouterse gaining power causes this jump in the exchange rate, imagine what will happen if his party actually wins the elections," Jesserun said at a rally. The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other institutions have reported steady improvement of Suriname's economy since disastrous financial policies that triggered massive protests and led to early elections in 2000. Bouterse and 11 others are being tried in a military court on charges of murder in the killing of 15 prominent opponents to his regime while president. The victims were

allegedly taken by soldiers to a military fort in Paramaribo and shot one by one. Two days after the killings, Bouterse said in a televised statement that the 15 men had been shot while trying to flee police detention. Bouterse has denied any involvement in the 1982 slayings, although in March 2007 he offered a public apology and said he accepted political responsibility. In 1999, a Dutch court convicted him on charges of trafficking cocaine from Suriname to the Netherlands and sentenced him to 11 years in prison, but Bouterse was not sent to the Netherlands because a treaty between the two countries prohibits the extradition of each others' citizens. A U.S. State Department spokeswoman said Washington will respect the results of free and fair elections.

"We are fully aware of Mr. Bouterse's history and, if elected, the United States would have to take his history into account," spokeswoman Virginia Staab said. "However, given Suriname's current election campaign and the ongoing trial involving Mr. Bouterse, we do not believe it would be appropriate to comment further." Many Bouterse supporters believe his claims that the murder charges were contrived by the governing parties for political gain. "Honestly, I cannot believe he was involved in the killing of those people," said 23-year-old Doreen Marengo. Bouterse seized control of Suriname in 1980, five years after it gained independence from the Netherlands. He stepped down under international pressure in 1987 and briefly seized power again in 1990. □

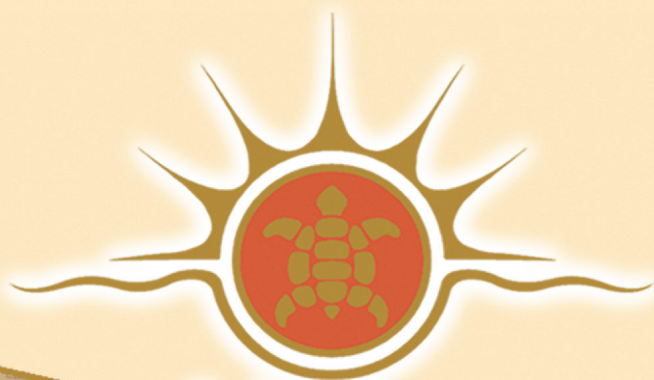
U.S. deploys missiles to Poland to train NATO ally

VANESSA GERA

Associated Press Writer

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Dozens of American soldiers and a battery of Patriot missiles have arrived in Poland, where they will spend the next two years teaching the Polish military to operate the advanced guided missile system at a base just a few miles from the Russian border. The mission amounts to the most significant deployment ever of U.S. forces to Poland, which once was behind the Iron Curtain but is now an enthusiastic member of NATO. Though Russia had expressed its strong opposition to having a U.S. military installation close to its border, there was no initial reaction from Moscow to the arrival of the missiles — perhaps an indication that it wants to play down the matter after failing to stop the deployment. Andrew Paul, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw, said the battery arrived on Sunday at a base in Morag, a town in northeastern Poland just 37 just miles (60 kilometers) from the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said in January, when the location was announced, that he couldn't comprehend the need "to create the impression as if Poland is bracing itself against Russia." The Patriot garrison was a Polish condition for a 2008 deal with Washington to host a long-

range missile defense base meant to protect the U.S. and Europe from feared Iranian attacks. That plan, developed and negotiated by the Bush administration, angered Russia and was later reconfigured by President Barack Obama. Bush's envisioned missile defense interceptors were separate from the Patriots missiles, which have a shorter range and have not provoked Russian anger as greatly as the missile defense plan had. In the reconfigured missile defense plan, Poland is still expected to host a missile defense base, but not until about 2018 and one on a smaller scale than that envisioned by George W. Bush. The U.S. military has previously carried out training exercises in Poland, and has also trained the Polish air force to operate F-16 military fighter planes, which Poland bought to modernize its military. But Paul said the Patriot garrison involves a longer time commitment than anything before, and marks "the first continuing presence" of American soldiers and equipment in Poland. The missiles were transported by rail from a U.S. base near Kaiserslautern, Germany, and will rotate in and out of Poland along with 100 to 150 American soldiers for the next two years. Poland has expressed interest in possibly acquiring some of the U.S. missiles in the future, though no deals have been sealed yet. □



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U.S. - SOUTH KOREA

Continued from Front Page

He said the operations will test the nations' ability to defeat submarines and to monitor and prevent illicit activities.

"We think that this is an area where, working with the Republic of Korea, we can hone some skills and increase capabilities," said Whitman.

The military exercises would be a decisive display of force after last week's finding by a team of international investigators that North Korea torpedoed a South Korean warship on March 26 that killed 46 South Korean sailors. It was South Korea's worst military disaster since the Korean War.

More than 28,000 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea, an important regional ally. Previously, the Obama administration has been intentionally vague on how it might respond, reflecting U.S. reluctance to stoke tension unnecessarily.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton — in Beijing to win support from China, North Korea's top ally, for diplomatic action

— said Monday the Obama administration is striving to avoid a conflict on the Korean peninsula.

"We are working hard to avoid an escalation of belligerence and provocation," Clinton said.

"This is a highly precarious situation that the North Koreans have caused in the region." The U.S. will work with other nations to make sure that North Korea feels the consequences of its actions and changes its behavior to avoid "the kind of escalation that would be very regrettable," she said.

In its statement Monday, the White House endorsed President Lee Myung-bak's demand that "North Korea immediately apologize and punish those responsible for the attack, and, most importantly, stop its belligerent and threatening behavior." Seoul can continue to count on the full backing of the United States, the White House said. The South Korean president said that his nation would no longer tolerate the North's "brutality" and said the repressive communist regime would pay for the attack. He also vowed to cut off all trade with the North



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, center, poses with U.S. Ambassador to China Jon Huntsman, left, U.S. Secretary of Treasury Timothy Geithner, second from left, Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan, third from right, and Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo, second from right, during a group photo with U.S. and Chinese officials at the Great Hall of the People, in Beijing, Monday, May 24, 2010. Opening two days of high-level U.S.-China talks in Beijing, Clinton urged China on Monday to work with the United States to coordinate a response to the sinking of a South Korean warship blamed on North Korea.

Associated Press

and to take Pyongyang to the U.N. Security Council for punishment over the sinking of the warship Cheonan.

Obama, in response to North Korea's pattern of "provocation and defiance of international law," has ordered U.S. government agencies to review their policies toward Pyongyang.

The White House said

Secretary of Defense in Singapore.

Robert Gates remains in close contact with the South Korean Defense Minister Kim Tae-young and will meet with him next month

Whitman declined to say when the exercises will take place or whether they would require additional U.S. resources in the region. □



Lohan ordered to wear alcohol monitoring bracelet



Actress Lindsay Lohan, left, talks to her attorney Shawn Chapman Holley during a hearing in Beverly Hills, Calif., Monday, May 24, 2010.

By LINDA DEUTSCH, AP Special Correspondent
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Lindsay Lohan left court Monday with a heavy new piece of jewelry, but it wasn't her favorite kind of bling. Lohansported an ugly, alcohol-monitoring ankle bracelet that came with tough restrictions on her probation that could cut into her career plans.

The measures were ordered after Lohan angered Superior Court Judge Marsha Revel by failing to show up for a hearing last week in Beverly Hills and instead attended the Cannes Film Festival in France. Photos from Cannes showed the actress partying on a yacht into the late hours on the day she was supposed to be in court in Beverly Hills.

A bench warrant was issued for her arrest then lifted when her lawyer posted bail and Lohan flew back to the United States over the weekend.

Lohan's lawyer said the actress had her passport stolen in Canne and couldn't travel in time to attend the hearing. Lohan, wearing a dark gray pants suit, arrived in court a few minutes late and appeared somber and concerned when she conferred with her attorney about the move to attach the bracelet and require drug and alcohol testing every week in the Los Angeles area.

The bracelet gets a signal through the skin if a person has been drinking and sends the signal to the company that monitors it, court spokesman Alan Parachini said.

Lohan's attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, told Judge

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong, Pool)

Revel that Lohan was planning to travel to Texas to film a movie titled "Machete."

Revel suggested the actress might have to delay the project and was unmoved when Holley suggested Lohan could fulfill the probation requirements in Texas.

Revel stressed that she was prepared to spend a half-hour reading Lohan and Holley a list of her reasons for ordering the bracelet, drug tests and an alcohol-education program.

Holley conferred with Lohan then accepted the judge's decision.

Asked if she understood the orders, Lohan said quietly, "Yes, your honor." It was her only statement in court.

Holley noted that Lohan had missed one previous hearing after he uncle died.

"Did she attend the funeral?" the judge asked coldly. Holley turned to Lohan, who sadly shook her head no.

Lohan, 23, did not address a throng of media outside the courthouse before joining Holley at the hearing. The actress rushed past the media on her way out, leaving in a waiting SUV.

The actress has been on probation since August 2007 after pleading guilty to misdemeanor drug charges and no contest to three driving charges.

Revel set a probation violation hearing for July 6 to address Lohan's failure to appear in court last week for a scheduled progress report on the probation stemming from the two high-profile arrests.

Lohan, who gained fame in

the movies, "Mean Girls" and "The Parent Trap," has provided the tabloid media with lots of fodder with her personal escapades. She spent more than two hours after the hearing waiting for a bracelet to be placed on her ankle.

Lohan must wear the bracelet until the July hearing, when the judge will decide if it will remain in place, Parachini said.

Lohan was to be arrested upon her return to Los Angeles for missing the mandatory

hearing, but the judge recalled the warrant late Thursday after Lohan posted bail.

Holley said Lohan's passport was stolen and she had proof Lohan had an airplane ticket to return for that hearing. □

3-D 'Shrek' tops box office with \$70.8M opening

LOS ANGELES — "Shrek Forever After" stomped all over the competition at the box office with a \$70.8 million debut. The fourth film in the DreamWorks Animation franchise, starring the voices of Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz and Eddie Murphy, had the fourth-best opening ever for an animated film, behind the second and third "Shrek" movies and "The Simpsons Movie."

Last week's No. 1, "Iron Man 2," dropped a spot after two weeks on top. The Paramount superhero sequel has now made over \$251 million.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Hollywood.com are:

1. "Shrek Forever After," Paramount, \$70,838,207, 4,359 locations, \$16,251 average, \$70,838,207, one week.
2. "Iron Man 2," Paramount, \$26,361,258, 4,177 locations, \$6,311 average, \$251,026,061, three weeks.

3. "Robin Hood," Universal, \$18,769,220, 3,505 locations, \$5,355 average, \$66,165,690, two weeks.

4. "Letters to Juliet," Summit, \$9,006,266, 2,975 locations, \$3,027 average, \$27,332,507, two weeks.

5. "Just Wright," Fox Searchlight, \$4,290,431, 1,831 locations, \$2,343 average, \$14,697,071, two weeks.

6. "MacGruber," Universal, \$4,043,495, 2,551 locations, \$1,585 average, \$4,043,495, one week.

7. "Date Night," Fox, \$2,913,504, 1,869 locations, \$1,559 average, \$90,748,818, seven weeks.

8. "A Nightmare on Elm Street," Warner Bros., \$2,321,388, 2,125 locations, \$1,092 average, \$59,967,500, four weeks.

9. "How to Train Your Dragon," Paramount, \$1,901,211, 1,751 locations, \$1,086 average, \$210,990,918, nine weeks.

10. "Kites," Reliance Big Pictures, \$958,673, 207 locations, \$4,631 average, \$958,673, 1 week □

"Lost" finale finds 13.5 million viewers



(L-R) Cast member Emilie de Ravin, co-creator and executive producer Damon Lindelof, executive producer Carlton Cuse, and cast members Terry O'Quinn, Michael Emerson and Jorge Garcia of the series "Lost" participate in a panel discussion about the show's final season at the Disney ABC winter 2010 Television Critics Association press tour in Pasadena, California, January 12, 2010.

REUTERS/Danny Moloshok

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Some 13.5 million Americans watched the last episode of TV mystery adventure series "Lost", ABC said on Monday, but many critics and fans concluded the long-anticipated finale raised more questions than it answered.

The ABC network said the emotional 2 1/2-hour finale was the most-watched show on

U.S. television Sunday night. Some 9.8 million watched a special retrospective, "Lost: The Final Journey," earlier that night.

TV critics and fans of the award-winning show had mixed feelings about the conclusion of the tale of plane crash survivors stranded on a mysterious island.

Newspaper USA Today

listed 10 top questions that it felt had not been cleared up, including why the island needs protecting and why babies can't be born there.

In a review headlined "No Longer 'Lost,' but fans are still searching," Mike Hale of the New York Times said the episode was "largely a pleasant, nostalgic wallow for the show's fans."

Mike Ryan of Vanity Fair said the big revelation -- that the flash-sideways dimension was actually the afterlife - - overshadowed some of the answers that fans were expecting.

"Every question that's still lingering -- and there are quite a few -- is inconsequential. None of the actual events matter --it was only the journey that mattered," Ryan wrote.

"Lost", which began in 2004, was one of the costliest and most ambitious shows on American television and gained a huge following around the world. It has won 58 awards, including Golden Globes and Emmys. □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY



In this photo taken Sunday, May 16 2010, a sign announces a residential home has sold in the Boston suburb of Concord, Mass. Home sales surpassed expectations for April as government incentives provided a temporary boost to the housing market.

(AP Photo/Bill Sikes)

Rising home sales likely to cool despite low rates

By ALAN ZIBEL and MARTIN CRUTSINGER,

AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON — A now-expired homebuyer tax credit and low mortgage rates helped boost sales of previously occupied homes in April. The improvements aren't likely to last. The tax credit is now gone. And economists caution that Americans are facing so many financial obstacles that falling rates alone won't be enough to lift the housing market.

"Although mortgage rates have fallen sharply, the combination of high unemployment, heavy indebtedness and tight credit suggest to us that demand will stumble," said Paul Dales, an economist at Capital Economics.

Sales of previously owned homes rose 7.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.77 million, the National Association of Realtors said Monday. The sales increase sparked a rise in home prices. The median price for a new home rose to \$173,100, up 4 percent from a year ago. Mortgage rates fell last week to the lowest level for the year. The average rate on a 30-year loan fell to 4.86 percent last Friday, according to financial publisher HSH Associates. That was just above the record low of 4.83 percent last December. Worries over the European debt crisis has sent investors rushing into the safety of U.S. credit markets. Rates had been expected to rise after the Federal Reserve ended a mortgage-buying program that pushed rates down to record lows last year. The uncertainty in Europe is a mixed blessing for the U.S. housing market. It's helped drive rates down for anyone who's closing a home purchase or looking to refinance. But it's bad news for most Americans with adjustable rate mortgages. About 70 percent of such loans reset based on the London Interbank Offered Rate. That's the rate large international banks use when extending short-term loans to each other. This rate has been rising because of the turmoil in Europe. But it's still well below year-ago levels.

In a healthier economy, extraordinarily low mortgage rates would pump up demand for homes. But economists say the job market is too weak and credit too tight.

"Having a good mortgage rate helps affordability, but we've had low mortgage rates for a long time now and sales have stayed below 5 million, except when the tax credit was involved," said Patrick Newport, an economist at IHS Global Insight. □

Late slide in financial stocks hits stock market

By TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Financial companies dragged stocks lower Monday as already anxious investors grew even more uncertain about the U.S. government's financial overhaul plan and debt problems in Europe.

The Dow Jones industrial average slid 80 points in the final 15 minutes of trading to end with a loss of almost 127. It was the lowest close for the Dow since Feb. 10. The Dow and the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell more than 1 percent.

Investors are worried about limits that could be placed on U.S. banks in a final version of the financial overhaul bill. A bill that passed the Senate last week is now being reconciled with the House version. The late drop illustrates how jittery traders are in particular about what will happen in Europe.

"People are afraid to go home and say 'All of the sudden what's going to happen overnight in Europe? Is something new going to pop up?'" said Joe Saluzzi, co-head of equity trading at Themis Trading LLC.

The rescue of a Spanish bank raised investors' uneasiness about Europe's economy. Investors can't shake their concerns that there could be more bank bailouts in Europe if a wave of bad debt cascades through financial markets. It's not clear that will happen, but traders remember well the problems in the U.S. that began with bad subprime loans. Those problems started small but eventually helped take down Lehman Brothers in September 2008.

The Bank of Spain stepped in to rescue Cajasur after it failed to complete a merger. It was only the second time Spain's central bank saved a



Traders Richard Cohen, left, and Andrew Walsh work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, May 24, 2010.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

regional lender. The country is one of those already dealing with ballooning deficits.

Meanwhile, traders still don't have a clear idea about which financial overhaul provisions will remain in the combined House and Senate bill. That is making some traders cautious about betting on financial stocks.

It remains uncertain, for example, whether a final bill will include a Senate provision that would require big banks to sell their derivatives operations. Derivatives are often profitable but risky investments. Derivatives that were tied to mortgages were blamed for worsening the housing crisis.

The Dow fell 126.82, or 1.2 percent, to 10,066.57. The S&P 500 index fell 14.04, or 1.3 percent, to 1,073.65, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 15.49, or 0.7 percent, to 2,213.55.

About three stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 8.1 billion shares compared with 2.3 billion Friday.

Bond prices rose. Investors have been flocking to the relative safety of government bonds and have at times

dumped riskier assets like stocks and commodities. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 3.20 percent from 3.24 percent late Friday. Gold rose \$17.90 to \$1,194 an ounce.

Crude oil rose 17 cents to \$70.21 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The euro fell against the dollar, dropping to \$1.2361. The 16-nation currency has become a symbol of investors' concern about the continent's economy. Traders have been dumping the euro on fears that massive debts will cause a default by a weaker country in the European Union. The euro hit a four-year low against the dollar last week.

Analysts question whether countries like Greece, Spain and Portugal will be able to contain mounting debt through steep spending cuts. Investors are also worried that those budget cuts will upend an economic recovery in Europe and slow a worldwide rebound. "Right now the U.S. financial markets are trading very much out of fear and not any fundamentals," said Guy LeBas, chief fixed income strategist of Janney Montgomery Scott in Philadelphia. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



This May 13, 2010, file photo shows Cleveland Cavaliers coach Mike Brown arguing a call with the referee during the second half against the Boston Celtics in Game 6 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Boston.

Associated Press

Court: NFL is 32 teams, not single business

By JESSE J. HOLLAND
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court rejected the National Football League's request for broad antitrust law protection Monday, saying that it must be considered 32 separate teams — not one big business — when selling branded items like jerseys and caps.

"Although NFL teams have common interests such as promoting the NFL brand, they are still separate, profit-maximizing entities, and their interests in licensing team trademarks are not necessarily aligned," said the retiring Justice John Paul Stevens, writing for an unanimous court.

The high court reversed a lower court ruling throwing out an antitrust suit brought against the league by one of its former hat makers, who was upset that it lost its contract for making official NFL hats to Reebok International Ltd.

American Needle, Inc. sued, claiming the league violated antitrust law because all 32 teams worked together to freeze it out of the NFL-licensed hatmaking business



In this June 29, 2009 file photo, American Needle's Dan Parenti works on the computer at his office in Buffalo Grove, Ill. The Supreme Court on Monday turned away the National Football League's request for broad antitrust law protection, ruling that the league can be considered 32 separate teams, not one big business, when it comes to selling branded items like jerseys and caps.

Associated Press

and gave Reebok an exclusive 10-year license.

The company lost and appealed to the Supreme Court but the NFL did as well, hoping to get broader protection from antitrust lawsuits

Continued on Page 15

Cavs fire Mike Brown

TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Cavaliers fired coach Mike Brown on Monday after five seasons for failing to win an NBA title with LeBron James.

Brown's dismissal has been expected since the Cavs were eliminated by the Boston Celtics in the second round of the playoffs.

In five seasons, Brown, who had one year left on his contract, won 272 games and lost 138 and was the league's coach of the year in 2009. But the Cavs fell short of winning their first title and now face an uncertain future with James, the league's two-time defending MVP, eligible for free agency.

Cavs owner Dan Gilbert made the decision to fire Brown following an organizational review that began following the Cavs' stunning collapse. Cleveland, which had the best record in the NBA the past two seasons, had a 2-1

series lead over the Celtics before losing three straight, including the final two at home by a combined 50 points.

"After a long and deep analysis of all of the factors that led to the disappointing early ends to our playoff runs over the past two seasons, we concluded that it was time for the Cavaliers to move in a different direction," Gilbert said in a statement released by the team. "The expectations of this organization are very high and, although change always carries an element of risk, there are times when that risk must be taken in an attempt to break through to new, higher levels of accomplishment.

"This is one of those times."

Brown was voted the league's coach of the year last season when the Cavs won 66 games. However, Cleveland lost to Orlando in the conference finals and it was assumed Brown would have to get the team closer to a championship to keep his job. □

Manny Pacquiao in hospital with mild ulcer



Filipino boxing great Manny Pacquiao smiles during an unscheduled news conference at his mansion in General Santos city in southern Philippines on Tuesday April 20, 2010 in southern Philippines.

Associated Press.

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press Writer

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — World welterweight champion Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines has been admitted to hospital to treat a mild stomach ulcer and allow him to rest after campaigning for the May 10 congressional elections.

Pacquiao's chief of staff, Jayke Joson, said Monday that doctors discovered

the 31-year-old boxer and politician had an ulcer during a routine checkup Sunday and his family convinced him to stay on in a suburban Manila hospital for a few days. "Really, Manny can only rest if you confine him to a hospital," Joson told The Associated Press, adding Pacquiao was receiving intravenous dextrose drips. "It's been so intense a campaign he missed some of

his meals."

Pacquiao's boxing promoters are working toward a possible bout with Floyd Mayweather Jr., or another fighter, as early as November.

Pacquiao's mother, Dionisia, told The AP her son was well and may be discharged from the hospital later Monday or Tuesday. Pacquiao won a seat in the Philippine's powerful House of Representatives, which he will assume on June 30. Aside from preparing to enter the political arena, Pacquiao is yet to complete advertisements for products ranging from food to sports items, Joson said.

U.S.-based boxing promoter Bob Arum has said he'll soon start talking to Mayweather's camp about putting together the world's top two welterweights for a Nov. 13 bout in Las Vegas or Texas.

Arum said he hoped to match Pacquiao against former welterweight champion Antonio Margarito if talks with Mayweather fall through. □



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Federer beats Luczak in 1st match at French Open

STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Miffed by a line call in his first match as defending French Open champion, Roger Federer quickly regrouped to win the opening set two points later, then went on to beat Peter Luczak of Australia 6-4, 6-1, 6-2 on Monday.

The top-ranked Federer committed only 11 unforced errors, lost just 14 of 64 points on his serve and faced only one break point.

"It's always important coming back as defending champion, trying to get off to a good start," he said. "It was like a perfect match to get off the French Open campaign."

Fourth-seeded Andy Murray was nearly the first major casualty in the men's draw. The British player had to rally from two sets down for the fourth time in his career to beat Richard Gasquet 4-6, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-2, 6-1.

In women's play, top-ranked Serena Williams was forced to battle hard in the first set before going on to beat Stefanie Voegelé 7-6 (2), 6-2. Williams, who had lost two of her last three matches heading into Roland Garros, used her serve and aggressive returns to pull out the first set. She hit three service winners late in the tiebreaker and finished with 10 aces.

It is only the second time in nine years that Federer arrived in Paris without a title during the clay season. But the 16-time Grand Slam champion showed no signs of vulnerability against Luczak, who fell to 0-4 in French Open matches.

Although Federer won at Roland Garros a year ago to complete a career Grand Slam, the role of favorite again goes

to four-time champion Rafael Nadal. They could meet in the final.

"I hope I'll be playing the finals," Federer said. "If it's him, it's perfect."

Williams said she was unhappy with her performance but declined to discuss specifics.

"I definitely didn't feel good about it," she said. "At least I won. I think I'm still in the tournament; that's what matters."

The 12-time Grand Slam champion is seeking her second French Open title and her first since 2002.

Third-seeded Novak Djokovic, a two-time semifinalist, beat Evgeny Korolev 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3, while Lukas Lacko of Slovakia beat American qualifier Michael Yani 4-6, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4), 6-7 (5), 12-10, tying the record for the most games in a match at Roland Garros since tiebreakers were introduced in 1973.

The match, which resumed Monday at 8-8 in the fifth set after being suspended overnight because of darkness, had 71 games. Three other men's singles matches at Roland Garros have also lasted that length. The overall record is the 83 games played in a match in 1957.

With warm temperatures on a second successive cloudless day in Paris, Federer lost his cool for only a moment. Speaking to the chair umpire in French and wagging his index finger, he disputed a line call on a Luczak serve, then waved his arms in disgust as he walked back to the baseline.

"He got a bit of a rough call against him, actually," said Luczak, who served a double-fault moments later to end the first set.

On one point Federer started behind the baseline, sprinted

to chase down a drop shot near the net post, slid into his forehand and flicked it from ankle level crosscourt for a winner. He ended a long rally with a sliced backhand that carried so much spin it bounced back toward the net for another winner, and he raised a finger to acknowledge the cheers.

"If it was anyone else, I'd be getting pretty angry," Luczak said. "He just had me on a string and just was toying with me at the end. I think he was enjoying it."

Then, on match point, Federer leaned into a backhand and pulled it at an improbable angle for one last winner.

No. 17 John Isner of the United States lost only 10 points on his serve, never faced a break point and beat Andrey Golubev 6-4, 6-3, 6-2. No. 15 Tomas Berdych and No. 20 Stanislas Wawrinka also won, but No. 27 Feliciano Lopez lost to Julian Reister 6-1, 7-6 (5), 6-2 and No. 21 Tommy Robredo was beaten by Viktor Troicki 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.

Also in the women's draw, third-seeded Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark eased past Alla Kudryavtseva of Russia 6-0, 6-3. No. 5 Elena Dementieva, No. 8 Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 11 Li Na and 2008 champion Ana Ivanovic also won.

Wozniacki has played the most tennis of anyone on the women's tour since the start of last year, and she looked sharp against Kudryavtseva, committing only nine unforced errors and missing just 11 first serves. Kudryavtseva lost the first seven games, then won two in a row, but was unable to stay with Wozniacki in long rallies.

Wozniacki has been bothered by a sore right ankle since mid-




Switzerland's Roger Federer gestures after winning a point against Australia's Peter Luczak during their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, May 24, 2010.


Associated Press

April, and the injury forced her to retire from a match in Warsaw last Thursday, but she said it has much improved since.

"It feels pretty good today, actually," she said. "I've had good support in the tape, so I was really happy about that." □



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ALWAYS ... ON TOP OF THE NEWS!

NBA Playoffs

Stoudemire's 42 lead Phoenix past Lakers, 118-109



Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire shoots around Los Angeles Lakers forward Pau Gasol, of Spain, during the second half of Game 3 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals Sunday, May 23, 2010, in Phoenix.

Associated Press.

BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — Amare Stoudemire matched his career playoff high with 42 points, 29 in the second half, and

grabbed 11 rebounds to power the Phoenix Suns to a 118-109 victory Sunday that cut the Los Angeles Lakers' lead in the Western Conference finals to 2-1. "Just being aggressive, really

going after it," Stoudemire said. "Tonight I wanted to come out with some aggressiveness and get it going."

The Suns can pull even with a victory at home in Game 4 on Tuesday night.

Phoenix, dominated inside in the first two games, won with its big men, and a big advantage at the free throw line.

Robin Lopez, whose 7-foot presence gave the Suns some much-needed toughness inside, scored 20 on 8-of-10 shooting in 31 minutes, by far his most playing time since returning from a back injury at the start of the series. Phoenix made 37-of-42 free throws, 14 of 18 by Stoudemire. The Lakers were 16 of 20 at the line.

Kobe Bryant had 36 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds. Pau Gasol scored 23 points, but the Lakers didn't get as much help from their supporting cast as they did in the first two games. "We certainly didn't come out to play the way I wanted," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said, "and we certainly didn't play the way I wanted at the end."

The Suns, the second-best

3-point shooting team in NBA history in the regular season, were just 5 of 20. But Jason Richardson was 4 of 7, including one with 26 seconds to go to put the lid on the triumph, snapping the Lakers' eight-game playoff winning streak.

Richardson scored 19. Steve Nash had 17 points and 15 assists.

Stoudemire, who had just nine rebounds in the first two games and had been criticized for his lack of defense, scored repeatedly on drives to the basket, when he either made the basket, was fouled, or both. The All-Star power forward, who can opt out of the final year of his contract after this season, made 10-of-12 shots in the second half, scoring 16 in the third quarter and 13 in the fourth.

"My dedication to the game should never be questioned," Stoudemire said. "I always give 100 percent. I try to dedicate my game to the game of basketball. I came out tonight with a chip on my shoulder and it was a must win for us." □

NL Roundup

Doumit's homer in 10th leads

Pirates over Braves

By ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The Atlanta Braves are specializing in dramatic, final at-bat victories this season. For a change, they found out what it's like to be on the losing end.

Ryan Doumit homered with two outs in the 10th inning off Takashi Saito (notes) for his third hit, helping the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Braves 3-2 on Sunday and avoid a three-game sweep.

Doumit's first career game-ending drive was his fourth homer this season and ended Atlanta's five-game winning streak and Pittsburgh's three-game losing streak. The Pirates averaged only two runs while dropping seven of their previous eight at home.

The Braves began the series with eight final at-bat victories and three in a row, including a 10-9 win Thursday over Cincinnati in which they rallied for seven runs in the ninth—the greatest such comeback in club history.

"We've been winning them just like that so, I guess, it's payback time a little bit for us," manager Bobby Cox said. Saito (0-2) retired the first two batters in the 10th before Doumit drove a waist-high fastball into the right field seats, only the sixth homer by Pittsburgh in its last 21 home games.

"It's just nice to win," Doumit said. "To win feels good. I don't care how it's done."

The Braves had won 10 of 12 overall and their last 10 against NL Central teams. They were denied their fourth consecutive series sweep of an NL Central opponent.

Octavio Dotel (notes) (2-0) pitched a scoreless inning for the victory, stranding two runners by striking out Martin Prado (notes), who went 0 for 5 while twice grounding into double plays.

Pirates starter Zach Duke (notes) followed a 2-1 victory Tuesday over Philadelphia and Roy Halladay (notes) by allowing only an unearned run over seven innings, giving up seven hits but striking out five and walking none. □

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MLB Roundup

Bay, Santana help Mets hold off Yankees 6-4

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason Bay homered twice off an ineffective CC Sabathia as the New York Mets held off the slumping New York Yankees 6-4 on Sunday behind Johan Santana's stellar pitching.

Shut down nearly all night by Santana, the Yankees rallied for three runs in the ninth inning before Francisco Rodriguez struck out Alex Rodriguez on a 3-2 breaking ball with runners at the corners to end it.

Alex Cora, a late addition to the lineup, got the offense started with a two-run single in a four-run second inning and the Mets took two of three at home in Citi Field for their first Subway Series victory since a rain-shortened two-game sweep at old Yankee Stadium in May 2008.

Red Sox 8, Phillies 3

At Philadelphia, Tim Lincecum pitched eight shutout innings for his first victory in nearly

a year as Boston downed Philadelphia.

Kevin Youkilis tripled, homered and scored three runs for Boston.

Wakefield's allowed five hits and two walks in earning his first win since July 8, 2009, against Oakland. Wakefield (1-2) also earned his 190th career victory as the Red Sox took two of three from the Phillies.

Indians 4, Reds 3

At Cleveland, Jhonny Peralta singled in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning to help Cleveland snap a six-game losing streak and even the overall series with Cincinnati at 33-33.

David Huff (2-6) gave up three runs and six hits over six innings for his first win in six starts. The left-hander was 0-5 with a 7.33 ERA since his first career complete game April 15.

Scott Rolen hit two homers

and drove in all three Reds runs, while starting pitcher Homer Bailey left in the third inning with tightness in his right shoulder.

Peralta lined a two-out single off Daniel Ray Herrera (0-2) to break a 3-3 tie.

Nationals 4, Orioles 3, 10 innings

At Washington, Josh Willingham homered in the 10th inning as Washington overcame Matt Capps' first blown save to beat Baltimore. Orioles closer Alfredo Simon left in the 10th after injuring his left hamstring while running to first base to cover on a grounder for the first out. Simon was replaced by Cla Meredith (0-2), who allowed Willingham's eighth homer, a drive to left-center on a 2-1 pitch.

Baltimore tied it in the ninth when Capps was unable to protect a 3-1 lead for his first blown save in 17 chances.



New York Mets' Jason Bay hits a second-inning, two-run home run off New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia in a baseball game in New York, Sunday, May 23, 2010.

Associated Press

NFL

Continued from Page 12

Major League Baseball is the only professional sports league with broad antitrust protection. The National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League, the NCAA, NASCAR, professional tennis and Major League Soccer supported the NFL in this case, hoping the high court would expand broad antitrust exemption to other sports.

But Stevens said NFL teams directly compete on many levels. Citing the two teams in this year's Super Bowl, the New Orleans Saints and the Indianapolis Colts, Stevens said that teams compete against each other "to attract fans, for gate receipts and for contracts with managerial and playing personnel."

"Directly relevant to this case, the teams compete in the market for intellectual property," Stevens said. "To a firm making hats, the Saints and the Colts are two potentially competing suppliers of valuable trademarks."

American Needle was one of many companies that made



In this June 29, 2009 file photo, American Needle's Dan Parenti works on the computer at his office in Buffalo Grove, Ill. The Supreme Court on Monday turned away the National Football League's request for broad antitrust law protection, ruling that the league can be considered 32 separate teams, not one big business, when it comes to selling branded items like jerseys and caps.

Associated Press

NFL headgear until the league awarded an exclusive contract to Reebok.

Lower courts threw out American Needle's lawsuit, holding that nothing in antitrust law prohibits NFL teams from cooperating on apparel licensing so the league can compete against other forms of entertainment.

But the high court turned away that theory and sent American Needle's antitrust lawsuit back to the lower court.

"Decisions by NFL teams to

license their separately owned trademarks collectively and to only one vendor are decisions that 'deprive the marketplace of independent centers of decisionmaking ... and therefore of actual or potential competition,' " Stevens said. Just because NFL teams have a single organization, the National Football League Properties, to jointly develop, license and market its logos does not mean it can escape antitrust scrutiny, Stevens said. □

At Minneapolis, Trevor Hoffman returned to help Milwaukee's patchwork pitching staff, and Corey Hart and Prince Fielder homered to help the Brewers win for the second time in 13 games.

Hoffman pitched a perfect eighth inning in his 1,000th career appearance, while Manny Parra (1-3) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

John Axford allowed an RBI-single to Jason Kubel and the Twins had the bases loaded with two outs. But Axford struck out Trevor Plouffe to

end it.

In other interleague games it was, Cleveland 4, Cincinnati 3; Washington 4, Baltimore 3, 10 innings; Boston 8, Philadelphia 3; Chicago Cubs 5, Texas 4; Florida 13, Chicago White Sox 0; Tampa Bay 10, Houston 6; Colorado 11, Kansas City 7; Milwaukee 4, Minnesota 3; St. Louis 6, L.A. Angels 5, 10 innings; Oakland 3, San Francisco 0; Detroit 6, L.A. Dodgers 2; San Diego 8, Seattle 1; Toronto 12, Arizona 4; and N.Y. Mets 6, N.Y. Yankees 4. □

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Heijink work exceptionally hard to ensure the restaurant is at its best for everyone to enjoy. The courteous and friendly staff will pamper you from 4 pm till 11pm, every day of the week.

Come in early for the daily fresh catches, such as red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi,

wahoo and tuna. Check with the server to find out about the Catch of the day. The chef will be more than happy to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deep-fried, pan-fried or the chef's choice. Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared depending on what the Fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon.

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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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Fire at Bubaliplas threatens Aruba's Birdlife Conservation

BUBALIPLAS – Aruba: last night, Sunday May 24th 2010 a fire broke out in one of Aruba's most important bird sanctuaries. The pictures here below were taken at about noon on Monday the 25th demonstrating that the fire was still out of control. Birds were seen flying about in panic. Some of the migratory birds passing through Aruba at this time of the year on their way to Central and North America use this sanctuary as a temporary resting place and a stopover location to boost up their energy (insects, little fish, etc.). Regretfully, other birds are breeding at this moment in the Bubaliplas and it is feared that quite some nests with content will go lost.

For the past year, Aruba has been very dry and at the Bubaliplas, this leads to the formation of very dry pieces of reed throughout the entire vegetation.

Continued on Page B5



Hard Rock Café Aruba & Johnnie Walker team up



To Take You & A Friend To The "Hard Rock Calling" In London, England!

ORANJESTAD -- Hard Rock Café Aruba and Johnnie Walker Whisky are giving you and a friend the opportunity to make your rock dreams become reality with two round trip airline tickets to London, England, all expenses paid including world class hotel accommodations and two tickets to attend the Hard Rock Calling 2010.

Read more on Next Page



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accommodations and two tickets to attend the Hard Rock Calling 2010 – one of the world’s most-anticipated concert events.

How to win the opportunity of a lifetime?

Register today at the Hard Rock Café Aruba for the 2nd

annual “Hard Rock Café Aruba Ambassador of Rock Karaoke Competition”. As mentioned before, the winner will receive two roundtrip airline tickets to London, England, all expenses paid including world class hotel accommodations and two tickets to attend the Hard

Rock Calling 2010.

The qualification rounds start on Wednesday May 26 and will continue on Friday May 28, 2010. The semifinals will take place on June 2nd, 2010 and the grand winner will be selected on June 4th, 2010. Qualification rounds, semifinals and the grand finale start at 9:00pm at Hard Rock Café Aruba. Bring you Posse, They can help you win!

The winner will be chosen partly by a panel of judges, consisting of Hard Rock Café Aruba and Johnnie Walker representatives, but a big part of each final score will be decided by The Hard Rock Café Customers. Customers will receive a coupon with every Johnnie Walker drink purchased, where they can vote for their favorite contestant. Visit Hard Rock Café Aruba on Facebook for details on event dates and times, and go to Hard Rock Café Aruba to watch your favorite contestant

battle for the opportunity of a lifetime!

Hard Rock Calling 2010

Hard Rock Calling, the three-day musical celebration being held from Friday, June 25th through Sunday, June 27th, 2010, with more than a dozen top bands performing each day on two stages, has established itself as one of the most important London events on the UK musical calendar over the last four years. Past acts have included Aerosmith, Eric Clapton, Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band, Neil Young, The Killers, Roger Waters, The Police and The Who. Rock legends Pearl Jam and Paul McCartney will headline the 2010 line-up in June. Other featured artists at Hard Rock Calling 2010 include Wolfmother, Ben Harper & Relentless 7, The Hives, The Gaslight Anthem and more. Those about to Rock we salute you. ☐

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PALM BEACH - Casa Tua presents a fresh approach to dining in Aruba with the outdoor atmosphere that is cool and relaxed; the name says it all “Casa Tua” meaning “Your Home” in Italian.

The menu varies with a wide array of Italian dishes including a Sicilian-style thin crust pizza dripping with cheese, fresh-made tomato sauce and a variety of toppings in the meat, sea-

food and veggie categories.

Today’s highlight of the menu is the Ossobuco di Vitello con Tagliatelle which is a mouth watering Veal Ossobuco (shank) stewed with red wine, parsley, Rosemary, oregano, onions and lemon juice served with the most unique Tagliatelle. After the first bite, patrons are seen pinching themselves to see if they are dreaming or actually taking a true bite of seventh heaven.

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Louane and Laetitia in starring roles

Taste of Belgium makes dreams come true for two great girls



ORANJESTAD - Louane Petroons (8) and Laetitia Vitale (14) are having the time of their lives. They have flown to Aruba, each in the company of one parent and they are enjoying every minute of their time here.

Here their greatest wish came true: for Laetitia it was learning how to dive and for Louane it was swimming with dolphins. Both girls are seriously ill. Peter Ballière of Taste of Belgium has arranged and sponsored the trip. He is involved with an organization like the Make a Wish Foundation, Mistral Gagnant. Mistral Gagnant works out of Brussels and covers Wallonia and Brussels. Lydia de Genst and Erika Knabel are both representatives of Mistral Gagnant; they form part of the group.

Having your dream come true is something truly special. For Louane and Laetitia it will be something they will never forget. They arrived on the island last Tuesday, and after a day of rest at sponsor resort Divi, they set out for a fun day on De Palm Island. Then on Friday morning the group took an early flight to Curaçao to go swimming with dolphins:

a spectacular happening for both of the girls, who were still talking excitedly about it last Sunday, when the diving dream of Laetitia was realized.

The group went out on the Palm Pleasure catamaran together with a fantastic dive master of S.E.A. Fly 'n Dive. He went down with the 14-year old after an initial

day of practicing in the pool at Havana. Laetitia's eyes opened wide, when she floated around in the azure water with fish all around her. She even saw a baby turtle swim past!

On Tuesday it is time to go back to reality for Louane and Laetitia: they fly home with Martinair. We hope they will be filled with Aruba's sunshine for a long time to come. The tickets to Aruba and Curaçao of the Mistral Gagnant (winning wind) and the swimming with the dolphins were sponsored by Taste of Belgium; Divi Resorts took care of the group's all-inclusive stay and De Palm Tours gracefully donated the snorkeling trip and the day at De Palm Island. S.E.A Fly 'n Dive sponsored the super diving experience of Laetitia□



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Chez Matilde Welcomes The Dutch Asparagus Season 2010



ORANJESTAD - Chez Matilde Restaurant has for many years welcomed the annual Asparagus season, or to be exact, the famous "Dutch Asparagus" season, with a celebration of perfectly paired

food and wine.

This year the tradition continues and on Friday, May 21, 2010, Chez Matilde officially welcomed this year's asparagus season with the launch of their asparagus

menu. An afternoon where local press was delighted with a special wine pairing presentation presented by Monrick Croes, Aruba Trading Company's Wine Specialist and Chez Matilde's Executive



Chef, Linda Pool.

Depending on the temperatures in any given year, Dutch asparagus season traditionally runs from the end of April to the Feast of St. John on June 24. In Holland they refer to the elongated, elegant

vegetable as "white gold," and it is considered a true delicacy. Given their love of asparagus, this tends to be a time during which asparagus enthusiasts gorge themselves on the delicious delicacy.

The asparagus was specially delivered by Theo Wouters of Deli Caribbean on a horse carriage and handed over to Linda, while a trumpet played in the background announcing the anticipated arrival.

Linda was extremely excited to receive her first case of the 2010 crop. Her special

asparagus menu prepared in her head, way in advance, immediately translated itself into reality, accompanied with the fine wines of the Aruba Trading Company each course appropriately escorted and paired.

The menu, replete with traditional Dutch Asparagus recipes also received an injection of Linda's creativity and ingenuity inspired by different culinary traditions while Monrick picked wines from around the globe, Germany, California, Chile, to enhance the experience.

Stop by at Chez Matilde restaurant in the heart of Oranjestad, for an unforgettable lunch or dinner, enjoy this year's "Limburgs Witte Goud" and see for yourself what the fuss is all about. □



Fire at Bubaliplas threatens Aruba's Birdlife Conservation



Continued from Page B1

Once some of that dried bush catches on fire, and aided by Aruba's constant winds, the flames slowly but surely eat their way through the Bubaliplas vegetation in different directions. There is practically not much the fire department can do other than prevent the flames

from spreading beyond the sanctuary. In nature fires occur throughout woods, causing havoc at first, but later on giving new vegetation a chance to spring up and renew the woods. It will take a couple of months before the burned reed at the Bubaliplas can replenish itself, but the encouraging news is that



Aruba is nearing its next rainy season. And if this year we get some more showers than last year, this will help speed

up the regenerating process. Now we can only hope that the birds which have lost their nests have enough time and

energy to start building new nests to help guarantee the next generation of offspring. We keep our fingers crossed ☐



Connection and Contribution

Humanity is undergoing a transformation from the third dimension based in Separation into the fourth dimension of Unity, where we know that we are all pieces of the same Source. Our foundation of expression is changing.

Every person on Earth has a unique, specific purpose that contributes to their personal growth and contributes to Humanity. But how can we contribute to Humanity in our own unique way?

We need to feel like we're

making a difference in our own unique way. A sense of contribution empowers our self-esteem because we have an inherent need to make a difference.

When we don't feel like we matter, we cut ourselves off from the energetic flow of Humanity.

We disconnect from our sense of belonging, and become estranged from the energetic synchronicity available in the Community Connection thru Contribution. When we're not a part of the flow, we stagnate and decompose into food for new life.

When we feel like we make a difference, we connect energetically, physically, spiritually, mentally and emotionally to the dynamic flow of Life. We include ourselves in the infinite synchronicity that is always around us.

Discover what gives you a sense of contributing to Humanity, and you will dis-

cover your your purpose in life. Universal Energies are aligning on Earth which will empower the cohesive community.

We can use this opportunity to go with the flow, and transform our own lives in the process.

As long as we feel that we're contributing in our own unique way, we remain directly connected to the Graceful Flow of Universal Synchronicity. In this dynamic Universe, the slightest effort can dramatically affect our lives. Simple acts save lives.

Your energy creates wondrous probabilities that did not exist without your compassionate input.

Think about what makes you feel like you're contributing to Humanity. What unique joyous expression is within you, that will serve the Human Mass Consciousness?

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit.

He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice.

These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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NEW

STREET DANCE 3D

daily: 5:45 8:00

matinee: 12:45 3:15 late show: 11:00

PG-13

THE LOSERS

daily: 9:00

matinee: late show: 11:15

PG-13

DEATH AT A FUNERAL

daily: 4:45 7:00 9:15

matinee: 12:15 2:30 late show: 11:30

PG-13

NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET

daily: 5:00 7:15 9:30

matinee: 2:15 late show: 11:45

PG-13

IRON MAN 2

daily: 5:30 8:45

matinee: 12:00 2:45 late show: 11:30

PG-13

HOT TUB TIME MACHINE

daily: 4:00 6:15

matinee: 1:45 late show:

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG-13

NEW

SHREK FOREVER AFTER 3D

daily: 4:00 6:15 8:30

matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:00

PG-13

NEW

JUST WRIGHT

daily: 4:00 6:15 8:45

matinee: 1:45 late show: 11:15

PG-13

ROBIN HOOD

daily: 4:30 7:45

matinee: 1:00 late show: 11:00

PG-13

THE BACK-UP PLAN

daily: 9:00

matinee: late show: 11:30

PG-13

LETTERS TO JULIET

daily: 4:00 6:30 9:00

matinee: 1:30 late show: 11:30

PG-13

FURRY VENGEANCE

daily: 4:30 6:45

matinee: 12:00 2:30 late show:

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IRON MAN 2

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matinee: 12:15 3:00 late show: 11:30

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SUPERB NEW ILLUSIONS

MAGIC Live!. Comedy On the Beach 3 shows in 1

At the Westin Aruba at 9.PM nightly



PALM BEACH - STEINFELD presents WOW factor! at the MAGIC LIVE!® ...theater-of-illusions show, Westin - Aruba. MAGIC Live!® theater-of-illusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's highest level, a lot of fun from start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how

the heck did he do that?'

Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld MagicLive show at the WESTIN, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate Magic Live! theater-of-illusions theater,

every seat is close to the stage.

In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", a tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees, then the sections are taken away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes!

Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a

IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show

Where: Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise area)

Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld

ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE: AT THEATER OF ILLUSIONS box office located in Westin lobby starting at 7:30pm nightly up until showtime, or at front desk at anytime

Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$34.95 adults



triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world. I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba, and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored "the Houdini Conspiracy", aka "Houdini Lives!", a

collaborated work with new england mystery writer Al Blanchard, he believes will be turned into a feature film.

SEE MAGIC, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, MAGIC! theater-of-illusions show starring ADAM STEINFELD. MAGIC LIVE! theater-of-illusions show...at the WESTIN-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld. □

Spectacular seafood special at Driftwood

From the pier to your plate at authentic Aruban seafood restaurant

ORANJESTAD - It's happening downtown. Established Driftwood Restaurant launches a serie of spectacular and delicious seafood specials, available now.

Driftwood is specialized in fresh seafood from the Caribbean Sea and has become the favorite spot for Aruban-style seafood dishes. Fresh fish is caught daily by the owner himself and



perfectly and authentically prepared by their talented local Chef.

Located in the heart of characteristic downtown, Driftwood offers you a unique dining experience. Enjoy the freshest fish, biggest shrimp, or the most succulent Caribbean lobster amid the rustic ambience of the natural driftwood dining room.

The authentic local seafood restaurant.

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lover's dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



Special of the month

Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

course is a choice of catch of the day (prepared your way), Jumbo Shrimp or for the meatlovers Filet Mignon or Chicken Breast. The evening is topped with a grand dessert and coffee or tea.

Driftwood Restaurant

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SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL

• ARUBA • MAY 26-31, 2010 - MEMORIAL DAY

Joe Thomas to enhance Sunday's line up



Joseph Lewis Thomas (born July 5, 1972), usually credited simply as Joe, is a seven-time Grammy Award-nominated American R&B singer and record producer.

Joe's extensive background in gospel music has allowed him to produce his albums as well as sing on them. A native of Georgia, Joe later moved to Opelika, AL; since he was the son of two preachers, he spent much time in church singing, playing guitar, and even directing the choir. Influenced early on by gospel stars like The Winans, Commissioned, and Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Joe grew to love soul legends Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye plus contemporary stars Bobby Brown and Keith Sweat.

In the 1990s

Joe graduated from high school and continued to sing and write music while working at occasional temporary jobs. Finally, he traveled to New Jersey, hoping to make connections in the music industry. While working at a gospel record store and continuing his music education through a local church, he met producer Vincent Herbert and recorded a three-song demo tape. He signed to Polygram/Mercury and in 1993 released his album debut, Everything. This album produced a minor hit for him and he was subsequently released from his contract. Joe also had a song called "All the Things" that appeared on the soundtrack to the Wayans Brothers film Don't Be a Menace to South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood (the brothers later used songs from Joe in love scenes in their various films over the years). This song was the only smash hit from the entire album. Joe then signed to Jive Records

for his 1997 album, All That I Am. This proved to be his breakthrough album, reaching #13 on the Billboard 200 album charts and number 4 on the R&B charts. The hit singles from this album included the Top 5 R&B/Top 20 pop hit "All the Things Your Man Won't Do", the Top 5 R&B/Top 40 pop hit "Don't Wanna Be a Player", produced by Rodney Jerkins, and "The Love Scene". "Don't Wanna Be a Player", produced by Rodney Jerkins, was also featured on the Booty Call soundtrack, helping its success. All That I Am eventually went platinum in the US.[citation needed] Joe remixed a duet by Barry White and Tina Turner called "Never in Your Dreams" and wrote and produced debut albums by Ideal and Déjà Groove in the late 1990s. Joe also sang on the remix of Big Punisher's "Still Not a Player", produced by Knobody, which interpolated Joe's "Don't Wanna Be a Player".

Joe appeared on the track "Thank God I Found You" with Mariah Carey which appeared on her Rainbow album. This song was released as the second single and came a #1 hit on the Billboard Hot 100. This track also became a hit internationally, helping to raise Joe's profile in other parts of the world. In the 2000s

Joe released his third album, My Name Is Joe, in 2000, which became his most successful album, reaching the top of the R&B album charts and #2 on the Billboard 200, eventually selling more than three million copies.[citation needed] This album was also his first to make an impression outside the US. It featured the Top 5 R&B (#2) and pop (#4) hit lead single "I Wanna Know", which also reached the top 40 in the UK and Australia. The second single released was "Treat Her Like A Lady", which enjoyed moderate success. The third single, the Roy "Royalty" Hamilton & Teddy Riley-produced "Stutter", was #1 on both the Billboard Hot 100 and R&B/Hip-Hop Tracks chart, and part of the Top 10 in the UK and top 20 in Australia. Mystikal appeared on the remix of the single, which

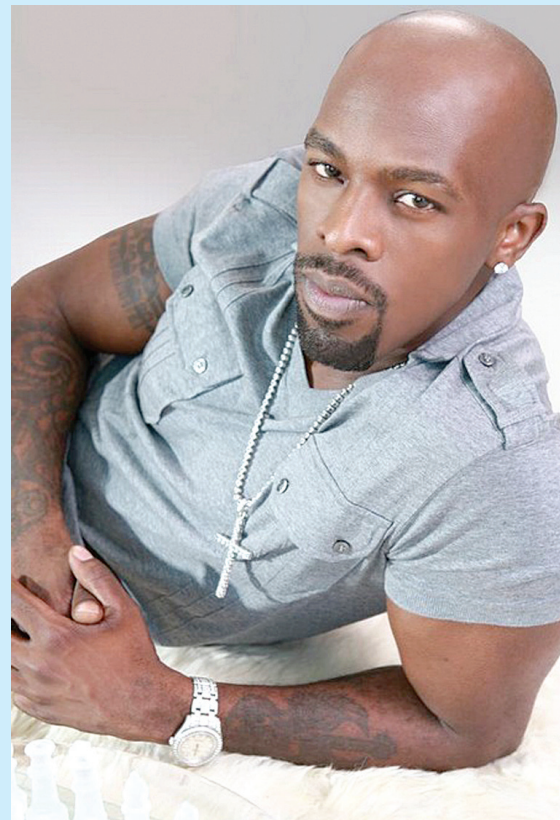
sampled The Pharcyde's 1992 hit "Passin' Me By", which in turn samples Quincy Jones' Summer in the City.

The Better Days album was released in 2001, reaching #32 on the Billboard 200 and #4 on the R&B chart. It featured two singles, "Let's Stay Home Tonight", which reached #18 on the US R&B chart, and "What If A Woman".

In 2002, Joe did another collaboration with Mariah Carey, which Joe joined the vocals from Kelly Price and Mariah Carey which is the remix of the first single "Through the Rain" from Carey's album Charmbracelet. He also recorded a track called God's Work which was not released but appeared on a sampler on Jive Records

Joe recruited high profile guests for the And Then ... album released in late 2003. R. Kelly wrote the track "More and More", which was supposed to be on his Loveland album. G-Unit features on "Ride Wit U". The singles from the And Then ... album included the Top 20 R&B hit "More and More", "Ride Wit U", and "Priceless". A Double A-sided single "More and More" and "Ride Wit U" made the Australian top 40 in July 2004, as well as #12 in the UK Singles Chart. And Then ... reached #26 on the US album charts and #4 on the R&B charts.

Joe's new album, Ain't Nothin' Like Me, is produced by Tim & Bob, The Underdogs, Cool & Dre, Bryan Michael Cox, and Sean Garrett. The album will feature



guest appearances by Nas, Fabolous, Papoose, Young Buck and Tony Yayo. The album was released on 24 April 2007 according to Joe's official website. The first single was "Where You At", written by Sean Garrett and produced by Chrisclusive featuring rapper Papoose. The video for the single was shot by music video director Billie Woodruff. The video for "If I Was Your Man", Joe's second single, was shot and premiered across the Internet and television.

The formula is proven as shown through countless platinum and gold album sales. Joe Thomas known affectionately as JOE, once again delivers on his second indie-release entitled "Signature". He continues to capture and redefine a style of sound and musical presentation audiences have come to recognize as JOE's very own. This go round, JOE covers new ground incorporating live instrumentation's with strings and horns intricately woven to add additional texture to his balladeering style. On the music scene for over ten years, JOE is considered a hometown favorite; that "guy next door", whom everyone feels a personal knowing; as he writes songs that speak to the core of every relationship. As a musician, songwriter and today as a label executive, Joe stands firm in delivering audiences his style... his "Signature". □

All-Star Comedy Jam on Thursday night

Chris Spencer to join Shaquille O'Neal

It's hard to keep a straight face when talking to Chris Spencer. Extremely talented and hilarious, this quick-witted funnyman began his stint in the entertainment industry at the age of 6 as a star in a national television commercial for Mattel's Tuff Stuff Toys. Today, his resume ranges across several sectors of the industry, with more than 30 television commercials, nine feature films, several television show appearances, a published book and numerous nationwide comedy tours.

If he looks familiar it's probably because you may have seen his work. TV credits include America's Top Model, ER, Soul Food, Charmed, and The Jamie Foxx Show. He has also been a frequent guest on Hollywood Squares. His film credits include Black Dynamite, Slumdog Virgin, 2 Can Play That Game, Sin, All About You, The Sixth Man and Don't Be a Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood. Chris has a strong backbone in the comedy industry with 15 years of experience as a stand-up comic. He has performed on Jimmy Kimmel Live, Def Jam Comedy Show, Monique's Big Black Comedy Show, BET's Comic View and Showtime's Lafapalooza to name a few. He has also toured with the likes of Dave Chapelle,

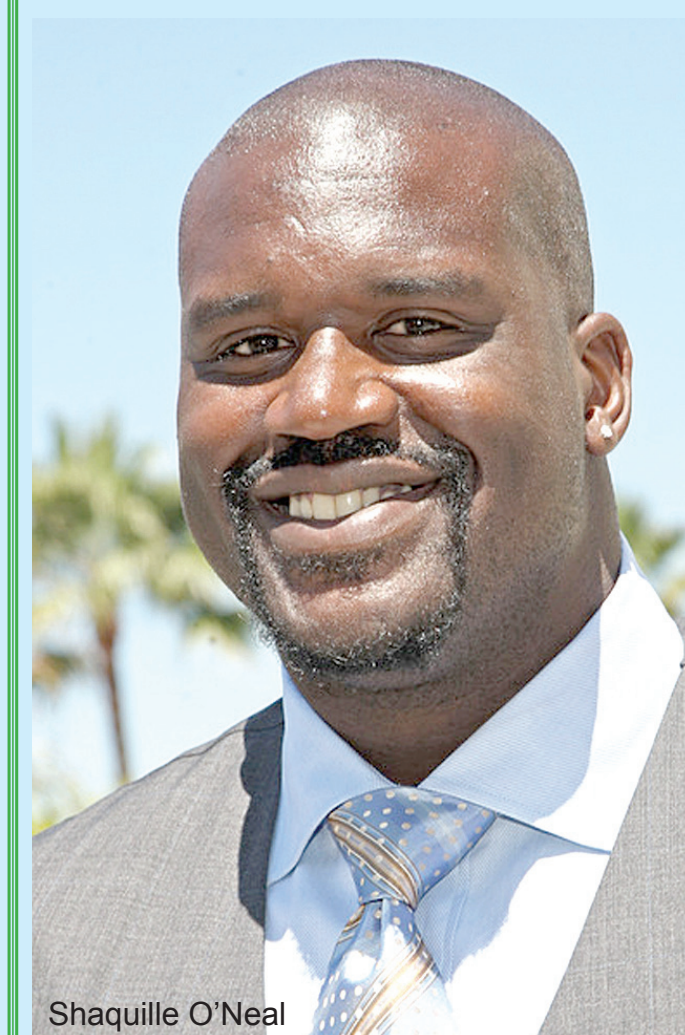


Chris Spencer

Damon Wayans and Jeff Foxworthy.

Additionally, Chris is currently one of the hottest comedic writers/producers in Hollywood. VH1, Comedy Central and HBO have all used his talents to springboard many of their latest projects. Comedic talents such as Will Smith, Jamie Foxx, P Diddy and Cedric the Entertainer all call on his comedic talents when it's time to rewrite their act, special or television/film script. Chris was also the head writer of MTV's Wildn' Out with Nick Cannon. He also published the best seller, 150 Ways To Tell If You're Ghetto. Notable writer/producer projects also include 2008 Larry the Cable Guy Christmas Special, Lafapalooza Comedy Show, TV One's Black Men Revealed, American Black Film Festival, MTV Awards, Black Movie Awards, The ESPY Awards, the MTV Video Music Awards and comedy specials; "Jamie Foxx Unleashed - Lost, Stolen and Leaked!" and "Jamie Foxx: I Might Need Security".

He also hosts the hottest night in comedy called "Showtime on Sunset" in Hollywood at the World Famous Comedy Store. On any given night expect to see Chris Rock, Dave Chappelle, Martin Lawrence or Chris Tucker on this incredible stage. And who's who does not only represent what's on the stage but the audience as well. Hollywood's elite come here to not only look for new talent but to enjoy a fun filled night. Regulars include Spike Lee, Eddie Murphy, Russel Simmons and Tyra Banks. □



Shaquille O'Neal

SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Aqua Grill... "the hip restaurant that is heaven on earth for seafood lovers," Fodor's Travel Guide



Among the island's many fine restaurants, Aqua Grill is the premier seafood sensation. Excitingly prepared in an open-view kitchen, fresh local catches join delicacies from waters abroad, including live Maine lobster, Norwegian salmon, sashimi tuna, and Alaskan king crab, along with a selection of non-seafood dishes.

Aqua Grill's award-winning chef offers a menu of classic and contemporary dishes. The fresh

seafood is prepared in a variety of regional styles, melding local island charm with the traditions of New England, the spices of Jamaica, the zesty flavors of Italy, the mystique of Indonesia, and beyond.

In addition to a selection of authentic dishes, your seafood can also be prepared wood-grilled, broiled, poached, steamed, or pan-fried upon request. Complimenting the menu is the island's

largest raw bar and a generous wine list of over one hundred selections.

Set in a contemporary decor combining the traditions of a New England fish house with the ease and character of the Caribbean, Aqua Grill's warm, island hospitality is the final ingredient to the complete dining experience on Aruba.

Open nightly from 6pm to 11pm, 5:00pm to 11:00pm on Sunday. □

Life's a Beach at the Juggling Fish



Palm Beach -- The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda Beach Resort is designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, as the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll find on the oceanfront boardwalk is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts, souvenirs, beach and resort wear, it's all on display a few steps from the water.

The tastefully arranged store is signature Boston-born Jodi

Tobman, also the owner of the brand-new Lazy Lizard, in the South Beach Centre. You will find a great selection of kid gifts here. In fact an entire inner section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach wraps, throws and hats also

awaits you.

Gift hunters will be pleased with the array of scented candles and candleholders. The store offers convenient barefoot browsing possibilities and is located within a short walking distance from the Hyatt Regency and the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort.

The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda fits nicely into that resort's "Life's a Beach" philosophy. Open from 9 a.m.



to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday, when the rest of the island is at a standstill, the helpful staff at the Juggling Fish Playa Linda Beach Resort is eager to serve you with a smile from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. You are also invited to visit The Juggling Fish, Divi Tamarijn all inclusive, open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week. Tel.: +297 586 4999.

Email: orders@salamanderholdings.com

ART RULES ARUBA 2010 is calling all DJ's to sign up!!



ORANJESTAD - Do you have a passion for music? Or have you always wanted to learn how to get the dance floor moving with the tip of your fingers? Get ready for Art Rules Aruba's DJ workshops!!

On July 16th Art Rules Aruba will Kick Off the ultimate international Arts program offering workshops in 7 different Art Disciplines including DJ-ing!!

Introducing internationally acclaimed DJ's, Face and DJ & MC MOTET, Aruba get ready as the Duo will be taking Aruba by

storm with a fresh and exiting new program for Aruba's up and coming DJ talents.

DJ Face is as much virtuoso behind the turntables as he is behind the microphone or the MPC, making a name for himself in the 13 years that he's been in the music business. His love for music and specifically Hip Hop goes back to the early 80's when in 1983 he won a talent show doing a classic break dance routine. He has since excelled both as a DJ and a producer at clubs from Washington DC to Hong

Kong. Teaming up with DJ & MC Motet, hailing from West London by way of Barbados, Motet represents London's DJ & producers collective Uprock Recordings. Previously hosting on the internationally respected BBC Radio, Motet has become known as an innovative DJ, Producer and MC. Bringing his own brand of twisted though progressive music he connects the dots between a wide spectrum of musical genres venturing through the dance floor playing all kinds of music from Soca to Hip Hop and everything in



between.

Face and Motet will offer 40 students the opportunity to learn the Art of Dj-ing through their experiences, knowledge and skills. With fun and educational classes in the history of Dj-ing, students will learn how to develop their personal skills in breaking, scratching and even mixing with the turntable, mixer and techy digital DJ software including Serato. As they away some of their personal tips and tricks on how to turn a dance

floor upside down, Aruba can also look forward to partying with the DJ's as they will also host the Art Rules Aruba parties and events!

For frequent updates on the events and parties and movements of the team, become a member of the artrulesaruba/facebook group.

For all other information on the program, the dj's or how to sign up visit www.artrulesaruba.com.

See you in July! ☐

America's Tall Ship Eagle to Visit Curacao



CURACAO - The Coast Guard Cutter Barque Eagle, also known as America's Tall Ship, will arrive at the West Wharf

in Curacao from Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) on Friday, May 28, at 10 am.

The Eagle participates in the

VELAS SUDAMERICA 2010 tall ships regatta. The regatta celebrates the Bicentennial of the First National Governing

Board. The Navies of Chile and Argentina have also joined in the organization of "Sails South America 2010". The Bicentennial Regatta unites several magnificent sailing ships, among them frigates, schooners and brigs, both civil and military, from various countries sailing the seas of South America and the Caribbean.

The Eagle is the only square-rigged ship in active American government service and was originally commissioned as the Horst Wessel in 1936 as a German training ship. Since 1946, the Eagle has sailed each summer in support of United States Coast Guard officer training programs, exposing future Coast Guard leaders to their first taste of life at sea. The 74-year old Eagle is a

295' long, three-masted square rigger with over 23,500 square feet of sail and six miles of rigging. You can follow Eagle's summer cruise on face book at: www.facebook.com/coastguardcuttereagle

The Eagle will be open for free public tours from 10am until 6pm on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, May 29th through 31st.

Media are invited to meet the Eagle upon its arrival to Curacao on Friday. Media will be given the opportunity to see the ship first hand and speak with members of the crew. If interested, please email Christopher Nolan at Christopher.d.nolan@uscg.mil.

For more information on USCGC Eagle visit: www.cga.edu. ☐

Announcing the Latest Curaçao Hotel

Hyatt Regency Curaçao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina Opens, Bringing Authentic Hospitality and Cultural Flavor

Newest Curaçao resort embodies the spirit of this captivating island destination

Willemstad, Curaçao -- Hyatt Regency Curaçao Golf Resort, Spa and Marina bid bon bini ("Welcome" in Papiamentu) to its first Curacao hotel guests on April 20, introducing a new level of luxury and service to this Dutch-influenced Caribbean island. As the focal point of the 1,500-acre Santa Barbara Plantation resort community, the 350-room beachfront Curacao resort

features Old Quarry by Pete Dye, the island's only 18-hole championship resort golf course; Atabei Spa, an eco-friendly holistic retreat inspired by the island's ancient traditions and rituals; and a full-service, six-slip marina.

The Curacao resort was designed to immerse guests in Curaçao's rich culture and heritage through a variety of



Classified

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WK 21	STD	\$5,000.	2ND FL P/O
WK 21	1BDRM	\$7,000.	3RD FL P/O
WK 22	STD	\$4,000.	1ST FL G
WK 22	2BDRM	\$16,000.	3RD FL O/F
WK 23	STD	\$4,000.	2ND FL G
WK 23	1BDRM	\$5,500.	1 ST FL G
WK 24	STD	\$4,000.	1 & 2 FLS
WK 24	1BDRM	\$7,000.	1 FL POOL
WK 25	STD	\$4,000.	1 FL G
WK 26	STD	\$5,200.	3RD P/O
WK 26	1BDRM	\$7,000.	2ND FL P/O
WK 27	STD	\$6,000.	6TH FL O
WK 28	STD	\$4,000.	1ST FL/ G

FOR MORE INFO,PLEASE CALL 741-4243, FAX US # 425-660-2309 or email david@playalindasales.com

activities highlighting the island's distinctive local flavor. From Camp Arawak, where children age 12 and under have the chance to explore the natural surroundings during cave hikes and iguana feedings, to the Lama Salt Bar which allows spa goers to create customized body scrubs from a selection of indigenous sea salts, herbs and aromatic oils, to an extensive farm-to-table dining program, guests will walk away with a true taste and feel for Curaçao.

"Curaçao is a vibrant and captivating destination, and we are thrilled to bring Hyatt's authentic brand of hospitality and extraordinary service to the island," said Diego Concha, general manager of

the Curacao hotel and resort. "We've worked diligently to capture Curaçao's colorful culture and undeniable charm throughout the resort, and we look forward to sharing this with our guests."

The Curacao resort's other amenities include three outdoor pools with ocean views, palm lined sundeck, StayFit@Hyatt fitness center, jogging trail, tennis and volleyball courts, and more than 38,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and banquet space. There are three globally inspired dining options, including MEDI, specializing in Mediterranean cuisine with an exhibition kitchen; SWIM, a poolside restaurant offering Pan Latino-influenced dishes; and SHOR, a specialty seafood restaurant.

All 350 guestrooms, ranging from doubles, kings and junior suites to VIP, executive and presidential suites, feature natural sandstone flooring, Hyatt Grand Beds, flat screen plasma televisions, deluxe bath amenities and scenic views of either Spanish Water Bay or the Caribbean Sea. Three beach bungalows in a private enclave are also available.

Located in the southwestern Caribbean, Curaçao offers an eclectic mix of history and culture. With a Dutch influence and European flair, the island is known for its sophistication, eco-tourism and pristine diving conditions.

In addition to offering sun, sand, sea and diving, Curaçao also provides many cultural, historical and ecological points of interest that appeal to the discerning traveler.

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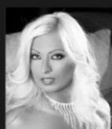
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Politicians Should Say No More Often

Sen. Tom Coburn

Last week's election results confirmed, if anything, that the mood of the electorate is decidedly anti-Establishment. Across America, candidates anointed by the Establishment - the president, congressional leaders, party leaders, etc. - are being taken out in places like Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Kentucky, West Virginia and Utah.

It was curious then that someone as adept as President Obama declined to reassure the public that he is on their side and eager to rein in both

parties in an unpopular and out-of-control Establishment Congress. Instead, the president lashed out at his critics with party-line talking points. The president derided Republicans as the "just say no" crowd and, in defense of his economic policies, challenged them to, "Tell us why doing nothing would be better for America."

If the president is upset that someone is overstating the degree to which the elections were a referendum on him he has a point. In Utah, for instance, some commentators suggested Senator Bob Bennett's support of a health care bill with similarities to ObamaCare cost him the election. Yet, a poll taken before the vote showed that delegates were more concerned about economic issues than health care by a 10 to 1 margin. In many respects the president is in the same boat as Bennett - neither are "the problem" per se, but both are perceived to be part of the problem rather than the solution.

In this context, the strawman argument the president and many Democrats are using completely misses the point. This argument is wrong, divisive and counterproductive.

First, the claim is false on its face.

Those in Congress most deeply opposed to the president's agenda, such as myself, Jim DeMint and Paul Ryan, have our own solutions and reform proposals to fix the country's problems. Offering different solutions and saying no to reckless policies is not obstruction - it is democracy. Two, if the strawman argument was true and there really was a party that just wanted to say no it would be surprisingly popular. Such a party would certainly be more popular than the party of yes, which many voters would describe as the Establishment.

Voters are twice as likely to believe cutting spending would help the economy rather than hurt economy (53 percent to 24 percent), according to a recent Rasmussen poll.

The public believes government is way too big

and that it represents itself and special interests ahead of the next generation. They are right.

In the past decade the size of our government has doubled, increasing at more than four times the rate of inflation. This raises a devastating question for the establishment. After years of saying yes to more government and massive increases in spending are we better off? Clearly, we are not. While families have been doing more with less, Washington has been doing less with more.

In their everyday lives, working Americans know that when government does nothing they are able to do more of something else. Every dollar that government does not redistribute through stimulus schemes or earmarks is a dollar that an individual consumer or entrepreneur can use to create real wealth. Not all "government investments" are wasted, of course - or at least not wasted equally - but government spends money far less efficiently than individuals. As Milton Friedman often said, people are most careful about spending their own money on themselves while they are least careful about spending someone else's money on someone else. Welfare states across the world are in a death spiral for this very reason.

The American people know the consequences of a Congress that values "doing something" ahead of nothing. Congress did something to make housing more affordable and inflated the housing bubble. Congress did something to make college more affordable and caused tuition rates to skyrocket. Congress did something to make health care more affordable and created programs that are harming patients and threatening to bankrupt our country. The list goes on.

The kind of change America wants is a more liberal use of the word "no" in our government. They want to hear politicians say no to deficit spending, no to earmarks, and no to policies that expand government rather than individual opportunity

War of Words with North Korea

Richard Halloran

It was a tale, said Shakespeare four hundred years ago, "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

If the playwright were alive today, he might write something like that about the opening salvo of the United States and South Korea in a war of words with North Korea over the sinking in March of a South Korean warship with the loss of 46 lives.

The South Korean government last week published a report on that sinking for which investigators compiled seemingly compelling evidence that a North Korean submarine had torpedoed the corvette Cheonan, clearly an act of war.

The sinking was the latest in a series of provocations by North Korea since the end of the Korean War in 1953. In response, however, the US, South Korea, Japan, and the United Nations have taken no decisive action to force the North Koreans to back off. The fear in Washington, Seoul, and Tokyo has been that assertive deeds could spiral into full-blown hostilities.

President Lee Myung-bak said South Korea would embark on "resolute countermeasures" to get North Korea to "admit its wrongdoing." Charles Pritchard, head of the Seoul-funded Korea Economic Institute in Washington, was quoted in the Washington Post saying Seoul could cut off trade with North Korea, close a North-South industrial park, or ask the UN Security Council to condemn the attack.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was quoted in The New York Times from Tokyo: "It is important to send a clear message to North Korea that provocative actions have consequences. We cannot allow this attack on South Korea to go unanswered by the international community." She was on a trip to Tokyo, Beijing, and Seoul to seek united action against Pyongyang but said it would be "premature" to be specific now.

Almost simultaneously, the North Koreans said, in effect: "We didn't do it but even if we did, war will break out if you retaliate." The

official North Korean Central News Agency said if Seoul opted for "counter-action," the North would react with "merciless punishment" including a freeze on inter-Korean relations and abrogation of a non-aggression agreement.

"The puppet group [referring to South Korea's government] has created such a grave situation on the Korean Peninsula that a war may break out right now," KCNA asserted. The North Korean bluster conjured up earlier bullying in which Pyongyang threatened to destroy Seoul "in a sea of fire."

Victor Cha, a scholar at Georgetown University in Washington and an authority on Korea, wrote in the Financial Times that, for the Obama administration, "the re-establishment of deterrence in Korea should be its top near-term priority in Asia."

He added, however, "After a strong start in its first year, the administration's policies towards the region are drifting."

Like Cha, the majority of other observers in the US, South Korea, and Japan, counseled against military action. None of the suggested actions, however, have deterred North Korea in the past. Here then is a different view:

The greatest fear is that North Korea could lob hundreds of artillery rounds into Seoul and its suburbs from guns deployed in a swath north of the demilitarized zone that divides the peninsula. Therefore, destroying those tubes and their ammunition depots, many of which are underground, would seem to be a prime target.

A surprise attack from B-1 bombers dropping conventional (not nuclear) bombs; warships and submarines launching precision guided cruise missiles from the seas east and west of the peninsula, and South Korean and US artillery firing from south of the DMZ, coordinated to land explosives simultaneously, could trap their targets underground and shock the poorly trained North Korean Army into standing down.

Risky? Admittedly, yes. But doing nothing would be to risk another violent North Korean provocation in the unknown future. □

Brasil aplaude entrega acuerdo nuclear Irán a la ONU

BRASILIA (Reuters) - La entrega de los términos del acuerdo de intercambio de combustible nuclear de Irán a las Naciones Unidas es una “victoria del diálogo” para el Gobierno de Brasil, dijo el lunes el ministro de Relaciones Institucionales, Alexandre Padilha.

En virtud del acuerdo presentado el lunes a la Agencia Internacional de Energía Atómica (IAEA, por su sigla en inglés), vinculada a la ONU, Irán enviará a Turquía 1.200 kilos de uranio levemente enriquecido y recibirá de vuelta 120 kilos de uranio enriquecido en 20 por ciento, para su uso en un reactor de investigaciones médicas en Teherán.

“El presidente está bastante satisfecho. Cree que fue una victoria de la diplomacia y del diálogo. Cuando jefes de Estado dialogan entre sí es posible conseguir avances mayores que cuando se procede sólo por canales diplomáticos”, dijo el ministro a la prensa.

“Aquello que la comunidad internacional se esforzaba en hacer fue concretado hoy con la entrega”, sostuvo Padilha, quien además negó que el episodio pueda generar grietas en las relaciones entre Brasil y Estados Unidos.

El acuerdo fue propuesto inicialmente por la ONU hace seis meses, pero Estados Unidos y sus aliados dicen que la propuesta ya fue superada por los hechos.

En la mañana, el presidente de Brasil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, dijo en su programa radial semanal que la declaración firmada la semana pasada entre Brasil, Turquía e Irán no es un “acuerdo nuclear”, sino un esfuerzo para que la república islámica acepte negociar sobre su programa de energía atómica. “Es importante que Brasil comprenda de una vez por todas que no fuimos allá para negociar un acuerdo nuclear. No tenemos poder para eso”,



Imagen de archivo del presidente de Brasil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, en una cumbre de economía en Madrid. Mayo 18 2010. La declaración firmada la semana pasada entre Brasil, Turquía e Irán no es un ‘acuerdo nuclear’, sino un esfuerzo para que la república islámica acepte negociar sobre su programa de energía atómica, dijo el lunes el presidente de Brasil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. REUTERS/Andrea Comas /ARCHIVO

afirmó Lula en el programa de radio semanal “Desayuno con el presidente”.

“Fuimos allá para tratar de convencer a Irán de aceptar una propuesta hecha por Turquía y Brasil de sentarse en la mesa de negociaciones, y lo conseguimos”, explicó el mandatario.

Teóricamente, el intercambio sería una garantía a la comunidad internacional de que Irán no está desviando uranio enriquecido para actividades bélicas.

Pero la comunidad internacional cree que, a estas alturas, las reservas iraníes de uranio levemente enriquecido son mucho mayores a los 1.200 kilos y que por eso sobraría mucho material para que Irán use en su supuesto programa de armas nucleares.

ESCEPTICISMO

Algunos diplomáticos afirman que sólo habrá un acuerdo si Irán deja de enriquecer uranio a un 20 por ciento, una actividad que comenzó en febrero y que ha alimentado las sospechas de Occidente de que la república islámica estaría desarrollando armas nucleares en secreto.

Teherán asegura que su programa nuclear apunta a la

generación de energía eléctrica para fines civiles.

Seis grandes potencias ya definieron nuevas medidas

punitivas contra Irán, incluidas China y Rusia, que previamente se negaban a aceptar una cuarta ronda de sanciones contra ese país. Teherán dice que va a cancelar el acuerdo si el Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU aprueba la resolución propuesta por Estados Unidos, posiblemente el mes próximo.

Turquía y Brasil, miembros no permanentes del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU, argumentan que el acuerdo sería motivo suficiente para suspender, al menos temporalmente, la discusión sobre nuevas sanciones contra Irán.

Las potencias Occidentales afirman que Irán aceptó el acuerdo sólo para ganar tiempo contra nuevas sanciones. □

Venezuela:

Trabajadores Polar en alerta por advertencia de Chávez

CARACAS (AP) - Los trabajadores del grupo de Empresas Polar, la mayor fabricante de alimentos del país, acordaron declararse en “alerta” y en “asamblea permanente” tras el anuncio del presidente Hugo Chávez de que está dispuesto a ir por la corporación si persiste en supuesto acaparamiento de productos, informaron el lunes dirigentes sindicales.

“Nosotros estamos en alerta...llegamos a un acuerdo todos los trabajadores, con empleados, de que nos vamos a mantener firmes en la lucha, vamos a estar aquí, vamos a defender nuestros puestos de trabajo en todo el país”, afirmó Richard Prieto, presidente del sindicato de trabajadores de Cervecería Polar, empresa filial del grupo.

Prieto dijo a la AP que los trabajadores de la Polar realizaron el lunes asambleas en todas las filiales del grupo para definir las acciones ante la advertencia que realizó Chávez en la víspera.

El dirigente sindical indicó que los trabajadores acordaron realizar asambleas diarias, y mantenerse en “vigilia permanente” en las instalaciones que tiene el grupo en la ciudad central de Barquisimeto ante el riesgo que se concrete la expropiación de unos almacenes de la empresa que acordó Chávez recientemente.

“Vamos a defender nuestros puestos de empleo así sea con la vida”, dijo Jhony Magdaleno, dirigente laboral del grupo en el estado centro costero de Carabobo, al cuestionar una inspección que realizó este lunes la Guardia Nacional a unos almacenes de la Polar en esa entidad.

“No hay acaparamiento. Están arremetiendo contra Empresas Polar para tratar de tapan la ineficiencia de este gobierno”, indicó Magdaleno al canal de noticias Globovisión. “Si siguen acaparando habrá que ir por la Polar, pero no le vamos a permitir a nadie que venga aquí a chantajearnos”, dijo Chávez durante su programa dominical al defender el decomiso de unas 114 toneladas de productos de la Polar que realizó la semana pasada la Guardia Nacional. El mandatario exigió a la Fiscalía General abrir un procedimiento contra la Polar por señalamientos de supuesto acaparamiento de productos. Polar consideró como una “acusación sin sentido” las afirmaciones del mandatario, y dijo el lunes en un comunicado que “no puede acaparar quien produce a máxima capacidad y distribuye diariamente alimentos para millones de hogares en Venezuela y que, adicionalmente, es supervisado y controlado permanentemente por el gobierno nacional” □



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